

## Output, demand and investment fall

# CBI economic view gloomiest for ten years

By PHILIP BASSETT AND PHILIP WEBSTER

BRITAIN is in "serious" recession with companies in their gloomiest mood for a decade, business leaders said yesterday. They again urged the government to cut interest rates.

The Confederation of British Industry's latest quarterly survey shows sharp falls in jobs, output and orders, both for home and export markets. But the employers did not believe that the recession would be as deep as those of 1974 and 1981.

CBI economists calculate that by the end of the year, output will have fallen by about three percentage points. The survey, carried out between September 26 and October 17, says that confidence, output, demand and investment intentions are all at their lowest since October 1980. About nine thousand jobs are going every month.

David Wigglesworth, chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee, called on the government to reduce interest rates in the near future, and John Sheppard, an economist at the merchant bank SG Warburg, said the

survey might move the Chancellor to cut rates by half a point. But the Treasury said it would not jeopardise its strategy to reduce inflation by any premature movement on interest rates. John Major, who has acknowledged that Britain may have a "technical recession", refused to comment on the CBI survey. The Treasury said, however: "The survey results are the latest piece of mounting evidence that the economy is slowing down, which is a necessary prelude to the reduction in inflation which will now follow."

Labour, nevertheless, attacked the government's handling of the economy, accusing it of complacency, and predicting a winter of bankruptcies, closures and redundancies.

CBI leaders said that the survey, of 1,255 companies, showed clearly that manufacturing industry was in recession and that other sectors of the economy not specifically included were also being badly affected. Mr Wigglesworth said: "It is important that the government takes careful note and reduces interest rates further as soon as it can." This month's rate reduction had not been enough to prevent the move into recession.

Mr Wigglesworth told a news conference that he believed the recession was "serious", not "severe" as suggested by the British Chambers of Commerce last week. "Manufacturing industry is clearly facing very tough economic and trading conditions. Many firms are now batten down the hatches and preparing to ride out the storm."

"Overall, the deterioration has been worse than expected and it now looks as though the business situation may get worse before it gets better. We believe, however, that there are three major differences between the current situation and the recessions of the mid-1970s and the early 1980s. British management was tougher, leaner and more capable. It was not cutting investment in innovation and training, and the cuts in investment in modern machinery were not likely to be as savage as in the previous slumps."

The CBI also said that the survey showed some evidence that inflation was being

brought under control. The rate of factory gate price rises in the past four months was at its lowest since early 1987.

Ministers agree that industry is better placed to withstand the effects of recession, and feel that the survey underlines the need to reduce the level of pay settlements, particularly now that Britain has joined the European exchange-rate mechanism. Pay and the ERM, including a proposal from the TUC for responsibility in bargaining, will be discussed by the government, employers and unions at the National Economic Development Council today.

Labour, however, laid responsibility for the recession firmly at the government's door. Gordon Brown, the shadow trade and industry secretary, said: "Nowhere else in western Europe are output and orders falling as fast as they are in Britain." The survey, giving the "grimmiest warning" from the CBI for ten years, came on top of a 70 per cent rise in winding-up petitions. He accused the government of neglecting industry for 11 years, adding: "It is now urgent that the complacency that has characterised government economic policy is brought to an end."

Alex Carlile, the Liberal Democrat trade and industry spokesman, also accused the government of complacency while industry grinds to a halt. He added: "The danger now is of a recessionary spiral, with one firm's lower investment plans triggering another firm's bankruptcy."

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Wigglesworth: batten down the hatches



Last defence: Indian riot police with shields and bamboo clubs trying vainly to repel the advance by Hindu zealots on the mosque in Ayodhya

## 5 die as Hindus storm mosque

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN AYODHYA

HINDU zealots stormed an ancient mosque in the holy city of Ayodhya yesterday, choking in a cloud of police teargas as they tore down railings and outer walls.

The frenzied assault set Hindu-Muslim relations on a path of confrontation, with potentially dire consequences both for India's secularism and for the Hindu tradition of tolerance. A new era of communal politics and strife has begun.

Police opened fire on several occasions around the mosque, killing at least five people. The 16th century building was slightly damaged, making a mockery of efforts by tens of thousands of security forces to protect it.

The state of Uttar Pradesh, with a population of 120 million, was brought to a virtual standstill. Yet 50,000 zealots still managed to get through to Ayodhya, where they swarmed through the streets and fought hand-to-hand battles with police who seemed utterly confused.

Many of the zealots had hidden in Ayodhya and surrounding villages for weeks. The official figure of arrests is 100,000, but it is at least 300,000 and perhaps as high as half a million. The prisoners are being held in makeshift jails, mostly in school buildings in appalling conditions.

Every town and community within 100 miles of Ayodhya (population 100,000) was overwhelmed by police and paramilitary forces who set up hundreds of roadblocks and kept everything but bicycles and bullock carts off the roads. There has never been a security operation like it in independent India.

Yet yesterday about 1,000 people, including *sadhus* (holy men) with brightly painted faces and clutching ceremonial tridents, surged towards the mosque and broke through police. Two dozen people climbed on the roof and some got inside, pursued by police with *lathis* (bamboo clubs). A

Continued on page 22, col 4

## Thatcher bars further surrender to Europe

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

MARGARET Thatcher yesterday condemned the proposals on economic and monetary union agreed by her 11 EC partners in Rome at the weekend as "the back door to a federal Europe". She told MPs in a statement on the talks that Britain had devolved many powers to Europe already. "In my view we have surrendered enough."

Unrepentant about the language she had used in Rome, the prime minister condemned the EMU proposals as measures "passing powers from national parliaments to a central board of bankers". However, MPs regarded as significant her emphasis on Britain's refusal to have an imposed single European currency. They noted that she fell publicly into line with her Chancellor of the Exchequer and foreign secretary by conceding that Britain's own hard ecu plan could lead from a common currency eventually to a single currency by agreement.

Look - it's a ROMAN ECU.



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sides of the Commons. Neil Kinnock's attack on Mrs Thatcher was almost entirely on her style in Rome and not on the substance. In one of his less effective performances lately, the Labour leader was handicapped by the fact that, as Labour sources admitted, he too would have refused to sign on the dotted line for a single European currency and independent central bank.

With the Labour leadership attempting to establish its pro-European credentials, Mrs Thatcher was able to exploit the interventions of left wingers who rose to air their complaints about the EC.

After Mrs Thatcher had questioned Labour's economic competence sources close to Mr Kinnock said last night that he would not take lessons on economic competence from a prime minister who for so long used the rate of inflation as a reason for not going into the ERM and then was dragged in because she saw it as the only way of tackling inflation.

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Leading article, page 13  
Political sketch, page 22

## Police raid Polly Peck offices

By OUR CITY STAFF

DETECTIVES from the Serious Fraud Office yesterday raided the Mayfair headquarters of Polly Peck International, the fresh fruit to electronics group now run by administrators.

Shortly before 8 am, uniformed officers seconded from the Metropolitan Police arrived at the offices in Berkeley Square, central London, with a search warrant.

Asil Nadir, Polly Peck chairman, said that the raid was symptomatic of a new desperation at the fraud office. In a statement, he said: "Notwithstanding the co-operation that the company and myself have given... the SFO... has chosen to use the Metropolitan Police to enter and search the company's premises in a more spectacular way than the investigations by professional accountants could achieve."

Mr Nadir reiterated that he had committed no criminal act. Nor, he said, had he been involved with any illegal or unauthorised share dealings.

Full report and photograph, page 23  
Comment and Nadir statement in full, page 25

## Police 'guilty of racism'

An Asian police constable was unlawfully discriminated against on racial grounds when he was refused promotion, with Nottinghamshire police, an industrial tribunal said yesterday.

It ruled that PC Surinder Singh, the first serving officer to allege racism by a British police force, and two other Asian officers, were less favourably treated on grounds of race when they tried to transfer to the CID. Page 3

## Dan Air hope

Cathay Pacific Airways, the Hong Kong airline, is negotiating with Dan Air to buy the struggling airline's Gatwick engineering base and turn it into one of the world's biggest maintenance centres. Page 23

## Imbert better

The condition of Sir Peter Imbert, the Metropolitan Police commissioner who suffered a heart-attack on Monday, was reported to have "marginally" improved yesterday. Page 2

## Bailey on show



Serious photographers, says David Bailey, aim for exhibition in galleries, not fashion spreads in magazines. He reveals how he put together his latest exhibition. Page 19

## Language threat

A serious shortage of teachers could threaten the introduction of compulsory modern foreign language lessons for all children from 11 to 16, the government was warned yesterday. Page 2

## England lose

England's cricketers lost to a strong Western Australia Invitation XI in a 50-over match in Perth. Page 44

## Saddam orders red alert in Kuwait

From NICHOLAS BEESTON IN BAGHDAD

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein yesterday ordered his generals to be on high alert for the possibility of US military action on Kuwait "in the coming days".

In Washington, members of Congress met President Bush at the White House amid increased fears of an imminent war in the Middle East after the administration stepped up its anti-Iraq rhetoric and President Saddam placed his generals on heightened alert.

In marked contrast to two weeks of largely conciliatory statements from Baghdad, the Iraqi leader warned his armed forces general command that they should prepare themselves for urban combat in Kuwait City.

The president underlined the need for maximum alert in

the face of treacherous designs of the American enemy and its allies in the coming days and for full readiness to face any possible aggression," the official Iraqi news agency INA said last night.

The meeting was attended by Abdul-Jabbar Shamsal, the defence minister, and President Saddam's recently promoted son-in-law, Hussein Kamal Hassan, the minister of industry and military manufacture, as well as unit commanders stationed in Kuwait.

The meetings discussed part of the preparations required for urban fighting in the Kuwait province's field of operations," INA said.

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Ready for war, page 9  
Oil crisis, page 23

## Rock of ages as the daddy-ohs dig their roots

By ROBIN YOUNG



Glitter: his success had to wait for a change of name

THEY unveiled a plaque in Soho yesterday to mark the birthplace of British rock and roll. To say the place was really jumping would be gross exaggeration, but it was crowded with middle-aged men with dye in their hair and nostalgia in their eyes.

59 Old Compton Street is now a bistro with not a juke box or pop record in sight, but in the 1950s it was the 21s coffee bar, "a magnet", as the plaque reminded, "to aspiring teenager rockers from all over Britain".

On the 21s' tiny cellar stage Tommy Steele, Adam Faith, Cliff Richard and the Shadows (then known as Harry Webb and the Drifters), Terry Dene, Micky Most, Wally Whyton and the Vipers and Screaming Lord Sutch squirmed, throbbed and sobbed their way to fame. Adam Faith, now a nattily

suited financial consultant and company director, was back yesterday to reminisce with the 21s' founder, Paul Lincoln. about the times Mr Lincoln would hire him to perform at 7s 6d (37½p) a night. Screaming Lord Sutch, veteran star of stage, screen and election hustings, brought out his megaphone to announce: "We will not rest until the 21s is a household name. Before the Cavern, before the Marquee, this was where it all began." Then he went inside for a drink. "Double chain and tonic," remarked a wag unkindly.

Wee Willie Harris, now quite portly Willie Harris, who wrote and recorded the song *Rockin' at the 21s*, bewailed the fact that he did not have a single photo to show the way he was then: pink-haired and tartan trousered. Newly arrived from Bognor he looked perfectly normal now. Someone thrust a paint brush into the hands of the composer, Lionel Bart.

Mr Bart, it transpired, had been commissioned to paint the murals for the 21s. He was locked in overnight and paid a crate of beer.

The show was stolen, though, by Gary Glitter. Fans swarmed, if five can swarm, to ask his autograph when he dived for his car and made an early exit after roaring a few impromptu verses before the cameras on the pavement. His continuing success was particularly pleasing since, under his original name of Paul Raven, his was one of the few acts at the 21s which did get into the charts.

The plaque is the third in a series sponsored by Harp Lager to mark sites of importance in British rock history. The first was placed on Widnes railway station, where Paul Simon wrote *Homeward Bound* in 1965, and the second is in Walsall town hall, where Slade played their first gig on April 1, 1966.

## RAISED IN THE HIGHLANDS.



THE FAMOUS GROUSE  
FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CHANGE.

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# 'Dublingate' sets a woman on course for the Irish presidency



Mary Robinson: enjoying a 19-point opinion poll lead

THE main beneficiary of the "Dublingate" controversy involving Brian Lenihan, the deputy leader of Fianna Fail, is Mary Robinson who could become Ireland's first woman president. Mrs Robinson, aged 46, from Ballina, Co Mayo, is a human rights lawyer of distinction and a former member of the Irish Senate with a modern, liberal, middle-class outlook, alien to many voters in rural conservative Ireland.

She is the nominated candidate of the Irish Labour party, but also enjoys the support of their arch rivals, the Marxist Workers' Party and, much to the embarrassment of Fine Gael, the main opposition party. She is attracting almost as many of its voters as its own candidate, Austin Currie. There is also considerable backing for her among the Progressive Demo-

crats, the junior coalition partners in government.

Mrs Robinson, who has three children and is married to a Dublin solicitor, has perhaps wisely chosen not to comment in detail on the Lenihan affair, concentrating instead on promoting her own view of an active working and youthful presidency, benefiting from what she can justifiably claim is her experience and understanding of the lives of ordinary Irish people.

In spite of the electoral risks and the inevitable danger that Fianna Fail will try to misrepresent her, portraying her as a dangerously liberal "red" candidate, Mrs Robinson has placed at the forefront of her campaign her controversial views in favour of legalising homosexuality, which is still proscribed in the Republic, on

As Ireland prepares to elect a new president Edward Gorman looks at the chances of one candidate who has shown she is not afraid of speaking her mind

removing the constitutional ban on abortion and on the need for more liberal laws on contraception. These are all issues which have engaged her as a lawyer and which help to account for her cross-party appeal to the young and to the intellectual and middle-class voters, particularly in Dublin and along the east coast.

Mrs Robinson is also making

the most of her appeal to Irish women. "All of us need to embrace the idea that mothers can be Taoiseach (prime minister), attorney general or, yes, even president," she said in a recent interview. "We must abandon now the outmoded traditions that still dictate that it is somehow inappropriate that a mother should seek paid employment, that there are jobs and roles that women must be excluded from."

Her views on Roman Catholicism on rural Ireland are even more controversial. Although a practising Catholic, she has described the "patriarchal, male-dominated presence of the Catholic church," as probably the worst single oppressive force subjugating women in Ireland today.

Before the Dublingate controversy Mrs Robinson's popular-

ity stood at about 33 per cent, exactly mirroring the dissident vote on recent national referenda on abortion and divorce. In the past week, however, she has opened up a 19 per cent lead over Mr Lenihan, while Mr Currie, whose Northern Ireland background seems to be counting against him, languishes far behind with only three points.

Mrs Robinson, who is a strong European and a member of the International Commission of Jurists, has no doubt that her election would send important signals of a change in attitudes among a large section of Irish society. "To have a woman (as president) and someone who has the kind of reputation in Europe as I have, particularly in the area of human rights, with a more pluralist image of Ireland, would

make an impact internationally - I have no doubt about that," she said.

Some observers see her lead and possible victory as of little real significance and largely the result of the machinations of the Dublingate affair together with the opportunity for people to vote on non-party lines. There are others who would agree with Mrs Robinson, viewing her victory as a milestone on the way to a more equitable society. As one experienced commentator put it: "If she wins then the prospects for changes in divorce and ultimately abortion law look better and, in general, Ireland will look rather more modern than with either Lenihan or Currie."

Election struggle, page 1  
Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 12

## Business rate to rise 10% despite pleas from industry

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS have decided to increase business rates by more than 10 per cent from next April in spite of pleas from industry for a rise below inflation to help companies cope with the effects of high interest rates and soaring fuel costs.

Chris Patten, the environment secretary, will make the announcement in the Commons today and give details of how much each local authority will receive in central grant next year. He will also spell out tough new capping criteria that will be used to curb council spending next year. Authorities will not only have to keep within government targets, but they will be capped if they increase spending by more than about 12 per cent.

The new hurdle is expected to put 75 councils at risk of capping, more than three times the number capped this year. Mr Patten will tell councils that they have no option but to cut costs and increase efficiency. His stance will be welcomed by Conservative backbenchers who fear that poll tax figures will soar next year. The environment secretary has already predicted an average of £379 a head, £100 more than the figure for this year.

The decision to increase business rates by a figure close to the present 10.9 per cent rate of inflation means that some companies will face a rise of almost 31 per cent because their bills will be inflated by last year's revaluation of business property. Under transitional arrangements no company will have its rates bill increased by more than 20 per cent, although the ceiling only applies after the inflation increase has taken place.

Michael Portillo, the local government minister, said yesterday that only 7 per cent of businesses would face the 31 per cent rise, while 20 per cent would see their rates bills fall as a result of the transitional arrangements. About 45 per cent of companies would

see their rates bills increased in line with inflation.

Under the Local Government Finance Act the business rate poundage cannot be increased by more than the September Retail Prices Index, 10.9 per cent, but ministers can fix a lower figure. Hopes that next year's rise might be well below inflation were fuelled last week when Mr Portillo said that there would be a surplus of £400 million on business rate income this financial year.

The uniform business rate is collected locally by councils who pay the Treasury, which redistributes the funds. The surplus revenue was caused by growth in the number of new businesses. Mr Portillo has hinted that the surplus will be used to reduce business rate bills, but £400 million is only a fraction of the £10.4 billion annual business rate income and will have little effect on bills.

David Blunkett, Labour's local government spokesman, said the new capping powers would put Mr Patten in control of council spending and "kill off once and for all the idea that poll tax improves accountability". He predicted "horrific" cuts in services and urged the environment secretary called to use the £400 million surplus to ease poll tax rises. He said the only long-term solution was to abolish the poll tax.

The right-wing Freedom Association yesterday paid the £148 community charge bill of Dave Nellist, Labour MP for Coventry South, who had refused to pay because he said the tax was unfair. Gerald Gartup, director of the association, said his organisation had paid Mr Nellist's £148 poll tax bill for his home in Wandsworth, south London, and was writing to him to ask for details of his unpaid debt to Coventry city council.

Mr Nellist said: "It is a testament to the millions involved in the mass campaign against the poll tax that this Thatcherite organisation thinks that this will have any effect."

## Compulsory language plans are threatened

### Teacher shortage may hit reform proposals

By DAVID TYTLER  
EDUCATION EDITOR

A SERIOUS shortage of teachers could threaten the introduction of compulsory modern foreign language lessons for all children from 11 to 16, the government was warned yesterday.

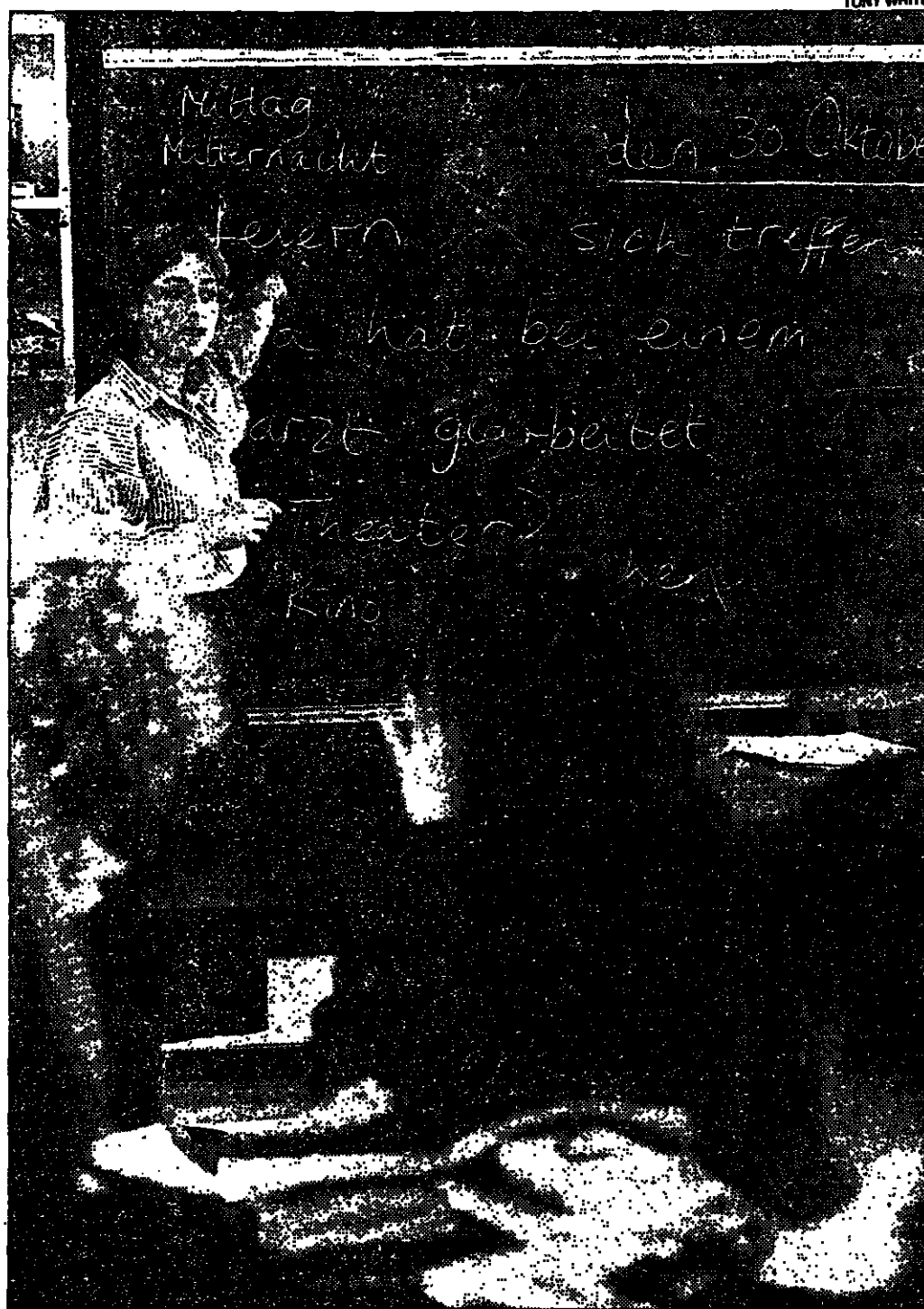
The final report of the national curriculum foreign language working party said that at least 1,750 additional teachers would be required. "We are clear that the perceived overall attractiveness of teaching as a career is the main influence on teacher supply, and that that this is an issue which the central government must continue to address vigorously." There must be improvements too in initial teacher training, continued training for qualified teachers and an increase in the supply of young foreign students to act as foreign language assistants.

The national curriculum would contain four attainment targets each with levels from one to ten: to understand spoken language and to respond appropriately, though not necessarily orally; to be able to converse and speak effectively; to read, understand and respond to written language and to be able to read and use books; and to write effectively.

The first task for an 11-year-old would be to understand and respond to a spoken command such as stand up, sit down, or shut the door, not necessarily to reply to the teacher in the language being taught. "Learners," the report said, "tend to be able to understand spoken language at a much higher level of sophistication than they can produce themselves."

At 16 children should be able to use sophisticated language of their own and be clearly understood at all levels of conversation and in writing. All lessons should concentrate on the art of being understood both verbally and in writing and, apart from reasons of safety, be taught in the foreign language.

The working party had originally suggested that there should be two separate lists of suitable languages with the first containing European ones and the second as alternatives. It has now recommended that there should be one list of 19 languages although schools will have to provide at least one EC language. John MacGregor, the education secretary, said: "I am sym-



Kathy Welsley teaching a German class at Newstead Wood school for girls, Orpington, Kent. "British children are as capable of learning a foreign language as any others"

thetic to the recommendation and minded to accept it subject to the outcome of consultations."

The list is: Arabic, Bengali, Chinese (Cantonese or Mandarin), Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Punjabi, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish and Urdu. "We believe," the working party said, "that this will go a long way towards meeting the main point of criticism - that it implies a hierarchy of languages."

British children were as capable of learning a foreign language as any others but that teaching methods in many schools would have to change, the report said. "Contrary to a commonly-held view there is plenty

of evidence that the British can make excellent linguists. It is true that the worldwide use of English as a *lingua franca* has in the past discouraged the learning of foreign languages in this country, but the recognition of the importance of being able to talk and write to our partners in other countries is now widespread. It benefits the country both economically and culturally."

Children who do not want to take a GCSE will be allowed to drop their language course if they achieve two of the four attainment targets, with the teachers choosing the two most appropriate for their pupils. Most

children will be expected to stay with the same language during their five years of school but it will be possible for some children to switch at 14 if they can persuade the school they have a good enough reason. Martin Harris, vice-chancellor of Essex University and chairman of the working party, said: "We trust that they will use this flexibility only in very special circumstances and for diminishing numbers of pupils."

The proposals will now go to the National Curriculum Council for consultation which will return its report next February for the final decision to be made in May. The lessons are to be introduced for 11-year-olds in September 1992.

## School sex manual under fire from union

By BILL FROST

A NEW manual on teaching sex to primary school pupils has come under fire from one of the teaching unions. The book, *Knowing Me, Knowing You*, was published yesterday and gives teachers advice on telling five to 11 year olds about contraception, sexual positions during intercourse, masturbation, homosexuality and the transmission of Aids.

Peter Dawson, the general secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers, said: "It is a corrupting influence. Children of that age cannot challenge these propositions - it is a form of indoctrination."

Pete Sanders and Liz Swinden, who wrote the book, describe it as a counterblast to the often ill-informed and haphazard way very young children find out about sex. Liz Swinden, a health education adviser in inner London, denied that the manual could encourage sexual activity among very young pupils. "In fact the figures show much lower rates of abortion and sexually transmitted diseases among the young in those countries where sex education is properly taught," she said.

The publishers of the manual have already received orders from 400 primary schools.

Mary Ann Sieghart, page 12

## Liverpool acts to cut deficit

LIVERPOOL city council took emergency measures yesterday to cut its multi-million pound deficit and avoid the District Auditor by taking control of the city's finances (Ronald Faux writes).

The council's financial control sub-committee voted to take over all decisions on financial matters from the full council. This could effectively exclude members of the broad left from being involved in the city's financial planning. The decision is likely to provoke strong resentment among left-wing councillors at today's full council meeting.

Other measures agreed by the committee were an immediate freeze on future council appointments, stringent cost cutting measures and the possible introduction of charges for certain council services. The committee was told that deferred expenditure had reduced the probable deficit by £2 million to £10.1 million.

## Appeal for deaf

Deaf people risk being isolated and uneducated because of a shortage of sign language interpreters, the British Deaf Association said yesterday. There are just 84 qualified interpreters for the 50,000 profoundly deaf people who communicate by sign language, it said. Launching its Manifesto 2000 appeal, the association called for more sign language teachers for schools for the deaf.

## Farms blamed

Farm waste is the biggest cause of river pollution in many parts of the country and nothing less than a national strategy will help to overcome the problem, Lord Crickhowell, chairman of the National Rivers Authority, said yesterday. Farmers were often "entirely ignorant" of the damage they were causing to rivers, and many of the 10,000 farm discharges given consent in England and Wales were unsatisfactory.

## Air fuel warning

Airlines were warned yesterday that the cost of aviation fuel could remain high if governments took advantage of the rise in oil prices to impose a "carbon tax" on fossil fuels. Dr Michael Grubb, a special adviser on climate and energy to the United Nations, told the International Air Transport Association, meeting in Geneva, that airlines had to press ahead with plans for more fuel-efficient engines.

## Orchestra change

The chief executive of the company which manages the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Bournemouth Sinfonietta resigned yesterday. David Richardson, aged 49, who has been chairman of the Association of British Orchestras for eight years, is to become chief executive of the Manchester-based Halle Concerts Society, replacing Clive Smart, who is retiring after 32 years.

## BBC plans television network for lawyers

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

JUDGES, solicitors and barristers will be able to keep abreast of news and views in the law with the launch next year of a television service for the legal profession.

The subscription service is being set up jointly by the BBC and the College of Law, which runs training courses for solicitors. It will allow lawyers to brush up on changes in the law or learn new legal subjects through special television courses.

The service, Legal Network Television, will be one of a range of 50 specialist services to be transmitted during the night on BBC Subscription Ltd, due to be launched next autumn. In spite of the close early this year of a subscription service started in 1983 for doctors, the company plans new services not only for lawyers but for doctors and farmers. There will also be specialist services for ethnic minority groups, in education, and in leisure services, covering sports, music and motoring.

Jennie Allen, spokesman for BBC Enterprises, the parent company, said: "We believe that the service for doctors didn't work because of problems getting the decoders to the profession. The problem was one of hardware rather than the overall concept." The aim was to ensure that lawyers could buy the decoders easily in high street shops, she said. There was a demand for a subscription service. "People need to be kept updated on improvements and precedents and this is a very instant way of getting the information across. It can take up to five years to get a legal text book on to the shelves."

Regular broadcasts will be transmitted in scrambled form in the early hours on BBC1 and 2.



Sir Peter: no longer giving as much cause for concern

## Police chief slightly improved

By STEWART TENDLER  
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE condition of Sir Peter Imbert, commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, improved slightly yesterday. Scotland Yard said that his condition was stable and was no longer giving as much cause for concern.

Sir Peter, aged 57 and commissioner for three years, was taken to St Thomas's hospital, central London, on Monday evening with a suspected heart attack after having been horse riding. Yesterday he received messages from the prime minister and David Waddington, the home secretary. Sir Peter spent much of the day with his wife, Lady Iris, his son Simon, aged 31, and his daughters Elaine, 29, and Sally, 24.

He was also visited by Sir John Dellow, the deputy commissioner, who has taken temporary command. Sir John, aged 59, is scheduled to leave the Yard next spring and has recently retired as president of the Association of Chief Police Officers. He would normally stand in for the commissioner if Sir Peter was absent. His work is in turn spread between the four assistant commissioners.

## What children are expected to know

THE following are examples of what children will be expected to do under the working-party's recommendations:

Attainment target 1: understand spoken language and respond appropriately.

At 11-12: respond to stand up, sit down, shut the door, repeat, did you understand (pupil nods). Copy sentences, pick out a partner's name, age and family details from a conversation; understand the cost of items and offer correct payment. At 12-14: after watching a video of people talking about their jobs, discuss what their jobs were, follow directions on a simple route map, take down details from a telephone message, identify from a public announcement what is being said, and guess from the context what an unknown word means.

At 14-16: listen to a semi-complete report and suggest a possible outcome, use a telephone, listen to a talk and list the arguments for and against, listen to a programme on healthy living and compare its suggestions with their own life style and listen to a discussion on environmental issues and produce a leaflet with recommendations.

Attainment target 2: express oneself effectively in speech and conversation.

At 11-12: answer questions, join in games, use phrases such as I don't know, I don't understand, I've forgotten, and take

part in a simple conversation.

At 12-14: offer a simple explanation as to why something has happened, sustain a conversation about hobbies or school, describe feelings and talk about immediate plans.

At 14-16: converse with a foreign language speaker without knowing what is going to be said, put a point of view with reasons.

Attainment target 3: understand and respond to written language.

At 11-12: match labels to pictures, read and act out simple dialogue, understand notes, messages, postcards and news items. At 12-14: respond to a written enquiry, identify key facts from a newspaper article, record your own story, reply to a letter.

At 14-16: compare an eyewitness account with that of a journalist, hold a discussion and be able to refute arguments, give a summary of a series of articles.

Attainment target 4: record and convey meaning in written language.

At 11-12: copy words and familiar phrases, write a shopping list, write several sentences. At 12-14: compose a simple piece of dialogue, correct written material, complete a diary for a week, prepare a leaflet showing how to use local transport. At 14-16: Write a report based on newspaper accounts, make arrangements for a holiday, imagine the story for a newspaper headline, and write about a controversial local event.

## How others tackle language studies

By ALICE THOMSON

STUDENTS enrolling at Amsterdam university next year will be expected to speak several languages. The university has decided that a quarter of lectures will be in a foreign language. Philosophy lectures will be in German, and many sociology classes in English.

The Dutch take their language teaching seriously. Ninety-nine per cent of children learn two languages at secondary school and most children are trilingual by the time they take their baccalaureat at 18.

In Japan teaching is rigorous - most Japanese children can quote Shakespeare and distinguish a subjunctive from a gerund, but few Japanese could even order a coffee in English.

The Japanese system is based on learning by rote. The aim is not to be conversant in a language but to pass the exams. All children learn English from 11, but the vocabulary they learn would be of little use to them. They chant from their textbooks sentences like: "My neck feels like a piece of twisted bread," rather than: "Could you tell me the way to Buckingham Palace?" Oxford university believes that when it opens a campus in Kobe in Japan next year its main function will be to teach students to speak fluently and to train them to utilise facts rather than merely absorb them.

In Italy, learning foreign languages has not been a priority, but the government is now introducing languages into primary schools, and it is compulsory for six-year-olds to learn a second language. English is most popular with six-year-olds, but older children can opt to learn German, Spanish and French.

In France, schools are also experimenting with teaching languages at primary level and the ministry of education wants to introduce language tuition in a quarter of all primary schools by the end of next year. It is compulsory to learn one language for the baccalaureat at 18.

The biggest problem faced by the education system in the United States is teaching immigrants English, and foreign language instruction is not considered a priority. Last year only a third of all children in high school learnt a foreign language. However, leading colleges demand one foreign language as an entry requirement.

In the past five years the Soviet Union has placed greater emphasis on foreign languages, and there are now 20 million people studying English. Children in all Soviet republics are expected to have mastered Russian and their mother tongue by the time they attend school and are taught English from the age of eight.







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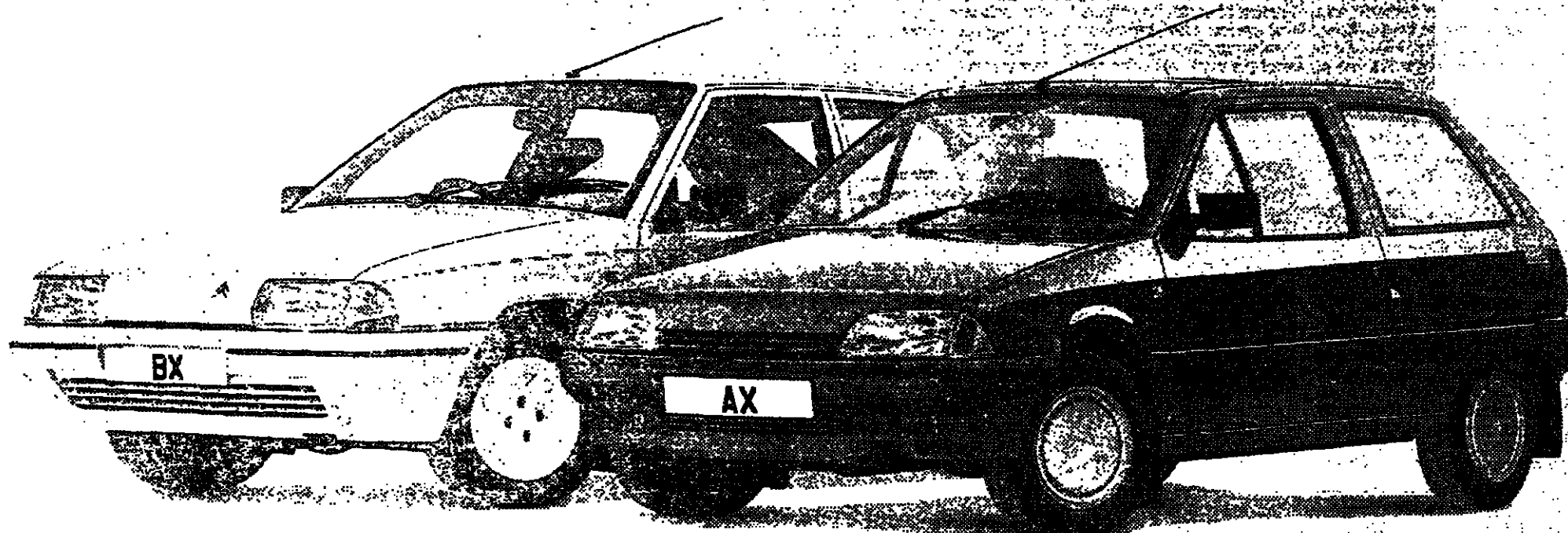
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# Enquiry urged as court challenge on Marchioness fails

By LIN JENKINS

SURVIVORS and relatives of those who died in the Marchioness tragedy are calling for a public enquiry into the disaster after a High Court challenge against the Director of Public Prosecutions' decision not to bring manslaughter charges failed yesterday.

Mr Justice Nolan, refusing the application for leave to seek a judicial review, expressed sympathy with the wish of those involved to get a proper enquiry into the causes and events of the night.

Announcing his decision, he added: "The sinking of the Marchioness was an appalling tragedy. It is entirely understandable that the survivors and relatives of those who died and those who are concerned with the safe passage of vessels on the Thames seek a full public enquiry into its

causes. This application does not afford the right means of securing such an enquiry."

Mr Justice Nolan refused the application brought by Dominic Langlands-Pearse, who survived the events of the night of August 20, 1989, when his wife died as the Marchioness pleasure boat sank after colliding with the dredger Bowbelle. He had claimed that Allan Green, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, had acted unlawfully and unreasonably in not bringing charges of manslaughter, or others under the Merchant Shipping Act 1988.

The judge said he accepted the remarks of Stephen Sedley, QC, for Mr Langlands-Pearse, that the case had not been brought in a vindictive spirit. He made an order under the Contempt of Court

Act 1981 that the evidence, argument and other comments he had made not be reported until after the trial of Douglas Henderson, captain of the Bowbelle, on a charge of failing to ensure there was a proper lookout.

Relatives of the 51 who died were last night disappointed with the decision, but welcomed the judge's understanding of their demand for a full public enquiry. The inquest into the deaths has been halted pending Mr Henderson's trial and is likely to be formally ended afterwards.

Eileen Dalgleigh, whose daughter Francesca, aged 19, was the youngest victim, said after listening to the judgment in court: "It has been 14 months and we have still not been told what happened. The only examination of what happened was the marine accident investigation branch of the transport department and we were not allowed to be there or have our lawyers present. The report is being kept secret."

"It is still a most painful experience to think what happened to my daughter and not to know why or how it happened. My child was left fighting for her life for 15 minutes in that water and we still have no answer as to why the emergency services took so long."

Venothi Ellington-Bangbala, who lost her son Paul in the sinking, said after hearing the judge's decision: "We only want to know what happened. Everybody assumes there is a public enquiry after something like this and yet we have not had one."

Linda Ali-Hunt, who lost her only child Julie, aged 26, called for a change in the law to establish a formal response to disasters. "There is no automatic right to a public enquiry. The inquest has been stopped and is unlikely to hear more evidence, so we are just kept in the dark."

Lawyers acting for relatives and survivors are considering the possibility of appealing against Mr Justice Nolan's ruling. Louise Christian, for Mr Langlands-Pearse, said: "We will be looking at what options there are, but will certainly be asking the secretary of state to reconsider the case for a full public enquiry." She said that the question of bringing a private prosecution had not been ruled out.

## Purley driver's prison term cut

THE train driver who caused the Purley train crash in which five people died is expected to leave prison on Friday after the appeal court reduced his sentence yesterday (Lin Jenkins writes).

British Rail said last night that Robert Morgan would return to work after his release and would probably drive empty trains in sidings.

Morgan, aged 47, admitted two specimen charges of manslaughter after the accident on March 4 last year, and was sentenced to 18 months in jail with 12 suspended. The court yesterday reduced the custodial term to four months.

Derek Fullick, general secretary of the train drivers' union Aslef, said the union would consider advising drivers, in the light of remarks by the appeal judges, to reduce speeds. He said the ruling had serious safety implications which he would be discussing today with Robert Reid, the British Rail chairman.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, said the risk of death on the rail network through disregard of signalling systems was so high that punishment was deserved. However, the jail term had been too long. Morgan, of Ferring, West Sussex, was driving the Littlehampton to Victoria train when it hit the rear of the

Horsham to Victoria service just outside Purley station.

Lord Lane, sitting with Mr Justice Roch and Mr Justice Auld, said Morgan had ignored warning signals for reasons that would probably never be understood and had been travelling at about 70 mph when he met a final red light and could not stop.

Mr Christopher Wren, aged 86, of Hove, East Sussex, who was injured in the crash, said he was pleased that Morgan's sentence had been reduced. "He made a mistake and I make mistakes myself, only when a train driver makes a mistake the consequences are very serious. I think he has suffered enough."



Morgan returning to work for British Rail

## Arts student banned from rail bridges

An arts student from Blackpool was yesterday banned from every railway bridge in Britain for his part in a plot to paint murals and bizarre lettering on British Rail property.

Magistrates in Blackpool were told that Alexander Maddox, aged 17, was traced to his parents' home by British transport police officers who discovered spray paints, marker pens and photographs of his work. Maddox admitted seven offences of criminal damage to British Rail property. He was remanded on bail for a week on condition that he keeps away from bridges.

## Murder attempt

A prisoner who tried to strangle a fellow inmate because he thought he was a sex offender was jailed for life yesterday by Stafford magistrates, Staffordshire. Alan Baker, aged 21, of Dulwich, southeast London, pleaded guilty to attempted murder in his cell at Swinfen Hall, Lichfield.

## Speed trappers

A fleet of unmarked police cars will be on patrol in Devon and Cornwall during the next few months to try to cut the number of deaths caused by speeding drivers.

## Guard killed

A railway guard was killed after falling from a train at Ruscombe, near Reading, Berkshire, yesterday. The alarm was raised by passengers who spotted an open door on the Glasgow to Brighton express.

## Russian cheers

Joan and Ruth Prior, of Hambleton, Leicestershire, are to run the first British public house in Russia. The Brown Bear will open in Moscow next month.

## Bat problem

A £200,000 restoration programme at St Erme House, near Truro, Cornwall, has been delayed after contractors discovered a colony of protected whiskered bats.

## 600 pigs die

Six hundred pigs were killed and 1,500 were rescued in a blaze at a farm at Wetheringsett, in Suffolk.

## Leeds centre gets birthmark laser

By PETER DAVENPORT

THE first NHS centre in England to offer treatment of disfiguring "port-wine" birthmarks with a laser technology pioneered in the United States is to open tomorrow at the Leeds General Infirmary.

Initially the system will be used to treat adults and children aged over five years, but it will eventually be expanded to treat babies as young as three weeks.

The treatment uses a tunable dye laser, a significant advance on the current argon laser technology in that it emits pulses of light rather than a continuous stream, ensuring that heat does not diffuse into skin tissue surrounding the birthmark and carries no risk of scarring. Argon laser treatment is available only to patients aged more than 17.

It is intended that the machine will be used primarily on children and treatment will be carried out under the direction of John Cooter, a consultant dermatologist. Hospital staff said yesterday that they had a list of 120 patients requiring immediate treatment and a further waiting list stretching over the next

18 months. They come from as far afield as South Wales, Norfolk and Tessaide.

Recent medical research estimates that one in three children are born with some form of vascular mark and that as many as one in a hundred people are seeking medical assistance for disfiguring birthmarks.

The new laser has been paid for by the £1 million "Laserfair appeal" of the Disfigurement Guidance Centre, assisted by the BBC Children in Need appeal.

Yesterday, Doreen Trust, who founded the centre more than 30 years ago with her husband, Peter, said that it was hoped the appeal would pay for equipment for five centres. The first went into operation at the Bangour hospital, in Edinburgh, in June and has already been used on more than 100 children. The next will be at the Bridgend hospital, Cardiff. It is expected that the other two will go to the south of England.

The treatment is available privately in London, but the aim of the centre's appeal was to ensure that it would also be possible under the NHS.

## Germans rebuked on Sunday closing plan

THE English Tourist Board yesterday criticised a German proposal to close most EC businesses on Sundays.

Germany is planning an amendment to a draft directive which would make Sunday an official day of rest throughout Europe, with almost all businesses closed. The plan is, however, opposed by Britain.

William Davis, chairman of the tourist board, said that the board did not think that any other country should be able to tell Britons how to spend their Sundays. "The German proposal is disturbing and I am amazed to see they have made it," he said. "I don't think it will get anywhere but we should take careful note of what other countries in the EC are doing."

Mr Davis was speaking in London as the tourist board launched a campaign to help

brighten up the English weekend. The board also proposed moving the May Day bank holiday to the first or second Monday in October to help spread public holidays around the year.

Among a list of board suggestions for Sundays were that all shops be allowed to open, that attractions such as the Tower of London should be open, that spectator sports should be held and that more theatre performances should be staged.

"There are some absurd gaps and inconsistencies in present Sunday trading laws," Mr Davis said. "Also we feel many attractions would benefit from opening on Sundays." The board also called for improved weekend public transport services and a change in Britain's clocks to allow an extra hour's evening light in winter and summer.

# Philanthropist seeks to win his Spurs

By JOHN GOODBODY  
SPORTS NEWS  
CORRESPONDENT

THE publisher Robert Maxwell is philanthropic in his attitude to football. When he invested in Derby County, where he is chairman, he said: "I do not buy yachts or pictures. I prefer to put my money into helping football."

The tangled negotiations over Tottenham Hotspur plc, in which Mr Maxwell could become the main shareholder, should be slightly unraveled this week when a detailed circular about its financial position will be published. This could be the first stage in Robert Maxwell acquiring 25.1 per cent of the north London club at a cost of £13 million. However, it will force him and his family to sell most of their shares in Derby County, of which he is chairman with 70 per cent of the shares, and Oxford United, where his son Kevin is chairman, and also Reading, where the family owns 23 per cent of the shares.

Under Football League regulations, no one may hold more than 10 per cent of shares in more than one club. Originally, this did not apply to Mr Maxwell because his sons alternated with their father as chairmen of the clubs. However, in 1987, when Mr Maxwell attempted to buy Watford, the League said that the rule excluded family and business associates from holding office in more than one club. This was not retrospective, so the family remained in Oxford and Derby remained in Oxford.

The league has decided that the £1.1 million loan in August by Mr Maxwell to Irving Scholar, who on Monday resigned as chairman of Tottenham Hotspur plc although he remains as chairman of the football club,



Financial sweep: Maxwell supporting Derby County, where he is chairman

does not contravene its regulations. The money was needed by Tottenham largely to pay Barcelona for the final instalment on the transfer of Gary Lineker, the England forward. However,

if the league is satisfied, the Stock Exchange is not. It is awaiting clarification of events surrounding the dealings between Mr Maxwell and Mr Scholar. The Stock Exchange has studied a re-

port by Ashurst Morris Crisp, the City lawyer, which is believed to be critical of Mr Scholar and other Tottenham directors. It is also thought to be unhappy over the secrecy of the talks

between Mr Maxwell and Mr Scholar, even if it is understood that Mr Scholar had advised that the loan did not require disclosure.

The circular has been delayed because the directors of Tottenham Hotspur plc, of which the football club is a subsidiary, could not agree on a statement about Mr Scholar's negotiations with Mr Maxwell.

Mr Scholar is typical of many football club chairmen. Because there is a regulation limiting dividend payment by clubs, most directors are in the game out of interest or for status.

Mr Scholar became a devotee of Tottenham, acquired the club in 1982 and the following year launched Tottenham Hotspur plc, the first league club to be listed on the Stock Exchange. The club diversified into leisurewear, books and computer products. However, these were not successful and with the rebuilding of the east stand for £7 million and heavy dealings in the transfer market increasing its debt, Tottenham reached financial crisis last summer.

Mr Maxwell seemed the ideal man to help, because few investors would have wanted to buy shares in such a risky venture as a football club. He also wanted Mr Scholar to continue to run the club.

He likes the game and, curiously for a man who could become the biggest shareholder in Tottenham Hotspur, became a supporter of Arsenal. Tottenham's north London rival, in 1938 when it toured his native Czechoslovakia. Being the biggest shareholder at Tottenham would be more in keeping with his status than being chairman at Derby, where he spent just 40 minutes watching the team last season.

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# Howard gives jobs warning on EC plans

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE European Commission's proposed employment legislation could cost British employers an extra £3 billion and might mean the loss of thousands of jobs, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said yesterday.

Mr Howard said that the commission's social action programme stemming from its social charter was fundamentally flawed. The programme proposes 47 legislative measures to ensure the social dimension of the single European market in 1992. The government is opposed to a number of the proposals, arguing that they reintroduce regulation of business and bring in socialism by the back door.

The commission is introducing directives this year on temporary and part-time workers, on working time, on employment contracts, on pregnant women and on health and safety, which the government will have to introduce as British legislation. Ministers have been fighting to change the detail of some of the proposals.

Mr Howard told a Confederation of British Industry conference in London that the employment department calculated that the initial proposals would add £3 billion to employers' direct costs. These were, however, initial costs and employees could be affected by further costs, including loss of earnings.

The commission plans to improve the conditions of part-time workers, in many cases making them equivalent to full-time employees. Mr Howard said that this would

cost £1 billion and imperil tens of thousands of jobs. The commission is also proposing new mandatory rest periods and restrictions on night and shift working. Mr Howard said that if these were introduced, 10 per cent of British working patterns would have to be changed. Jobs would be lost and companies forced to close. Extra costs would be at least £2 billion.

On the issue of pregnant women, proposed changes include 14 weeks' maternity leave on full pay. Mr Howard said that this provision would cost companies more than £400 million a year.

Mr Howard said that the proposals were driven by an outdated desire to regulate and harmonise and were inconsistent with community economic and social objectives. He also criticised Vasso Papandreou, the EC social commissioner, saying that she was not in a position to judge the impact of the proposals because the EC had refused to assess their economic and employment effects.



In harmony: The singer Jacqueline Dankworth and pre-school youngsters joined up in Trafalgar Square yesterday to launch the Festival of Winter Songs and raise funds for the Pre-school Playgroups Association

## Redundant miners 'have become a wasted asset'

By PETER DAVENPORT

MINERS made redundant in the contracting coal industry since the end of the year-long strike in 1985 are having to take lower paid jobs because of poor retraining opportunities, according to a report published today.

The document produced by the Coalfield Communities Campaign, an organisation representing coalfield authorities in England, Scotland and

Wales, says that the former miners could make up a valuable skilled work force to help regenerate their areas but instead are being allowed to become a wasted asset.

Since the strike, 140,000 jobs have been lost and more than 100 collieries closed. Of those made redundant, the average were out of work for nine months and a quarter took more than a year to find alternative work. Despite redundancy payments, few of

the men were tempted into self-employment.

Stephen Witt, national research officer for the campaign and author of the report, *When the Pit Closes: The Employment Experiences of Redundant Miners*, said: "Most of those who opt for self-employment merely continue to use their craft skills in a different sector."

In areas where mining remains important, a significant number of

men immediately returned to the industry with private contractors.

They were joined by men who could not find alternative well-paid jobs. "With many mining contractors employing men only on short-term contracts, this often reluctant return to mining offers no long-term security," says the report. However, it adds that only those returning to mining maintained earnings at a comparable level.

## City man leads trust to help people in debt

An eminent City figure aims to persuade the finance industry to provide more funds to tackle the debt crisis. Ruth Gledhill reports

A FORMER deputy governor of the Bank of England is to head a trust to raise funds from the finance industry to provide money advice services, it was disclosed yesterday.

The trust, formed in January, has so far been slow to get off the ground: little more than £100,000 has been raised towards its £6 million target. At the same time, some leading money advice services are facing closure because of lack of funds while at least 200,000 families are believed to be in severe financial difficulties.

Sir George Blunden, chairman of the London Pensions Fund Authority, has agreed to chair the Money Advice Trust, which aims to double funding for money advice services from the finance industry. Sir George, aged 67, was brought out of retirement at the request of the prime minister in 1986 to be deputy governor of the Bank of England and stepped down in February.

The trust was established as a result of a report from the money advice funding working party, chaired by Lord Ezra. The working party accepted that there were 200,000 households in serious financial difficulty and that the present money advice services could not cope with this demand.

Lord Ezra said: "I am very sorry to hear that money is not more readily forthcoming. I feel that if anything the need is now greater than it was at the time of the report."

His working party's plan to persuade the finance industry to give at least £6 million over three years has elicited £50,000 from British Gas, £50,000 from the Registry Trust, which registers county court judgements, and £5,000 from the National Consumer Credit Federation. The Consumer Credit Trade Association and the Finance Houses Association have pledged funding.

According to the report, a minimum annual contribution to money advice services by industry was "realistic and achievable".

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of Fair Trading, whose strictures to the finance industry led to the establishment of the working party, said: "Now the Money Advice Trust has been set up and has just appointed a chairman I would expect the credit industry to respond positively."

Mr Giles said it was wrong to blame finance companies for irresponsible lending. "I honestly believe that 95 per cent of finance companies give money responsibly. The question is how many people take it responsibly."

Stuart Giles, right, of the self-help group Support in Debt offers advice to a client

Support unit finds growing problems

By PETER VICTOR

DEBT problems are becoming increasingly severe, with growing mortgage arrears, bankruptcies, business failures and repossessions, according to the London Money Advice Support Unit, which provides training and follow-up support for London's 135 citizens' advice bureaux.

Kay Birch, the agency's manager, said that irresponsible firms offering to convert debts into secured loans at high interest rates and lenders charging rates of up to 636 per cent APR made the problem worse.

The agency was launched last April and has been granted £100,000 a year from Citibank towards its first three years' costs. It runs a consultancy for debt counsellors as well as providing training.

In its first year, the unit took 640 calls. Cases referred to the agency usually involve multiple debts. The unit in the London borough of Merton, for example, reports that four out of five

of its clients have at least five debts. Nearly a quarter have 10 or more outstanding commitments. They owe an average of more than £8,500, including arrears on first mortgages. This amount, the unit says, is enough to trigger homelessness and the loss of services.

"People are quite frightened by debt," Miss Birch said. "Our advisers have to build up relationships with clients before we can start to tackle the problem. Quite a few clients have other problems... All that has to be taken into consideration as well."

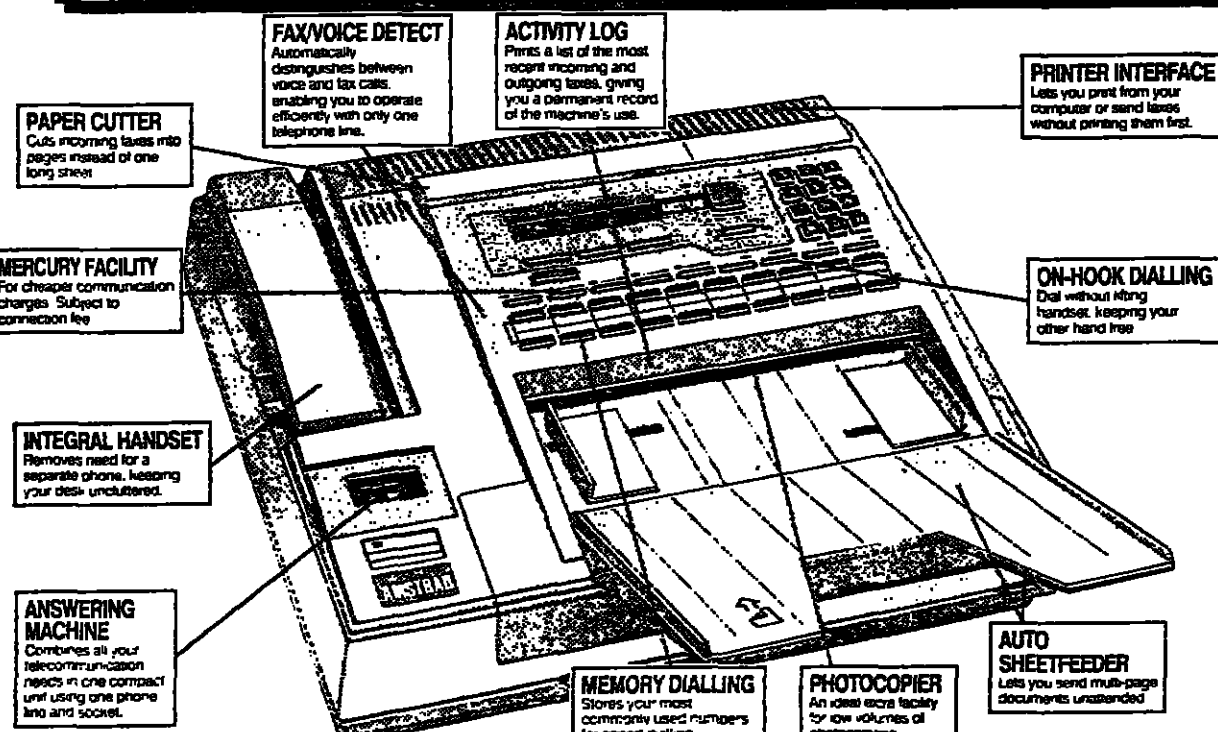
"Our cases come from socio-economic groups across the board," she said. One case the agency dealt with involved a client whose salary was more than £120,000.

Paul Cohen, Citibank's UK consumer services manager, called on other financial institutions to support such agencies, saying that the future looked bleak with the prospect of a recession.

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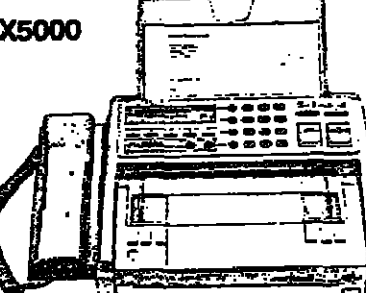
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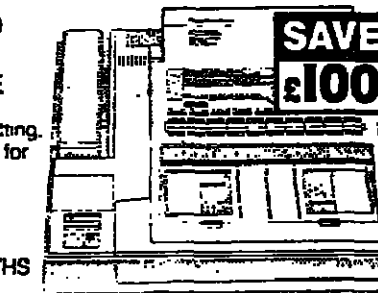


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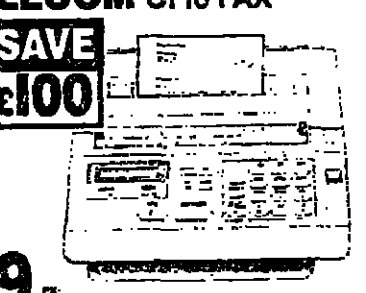
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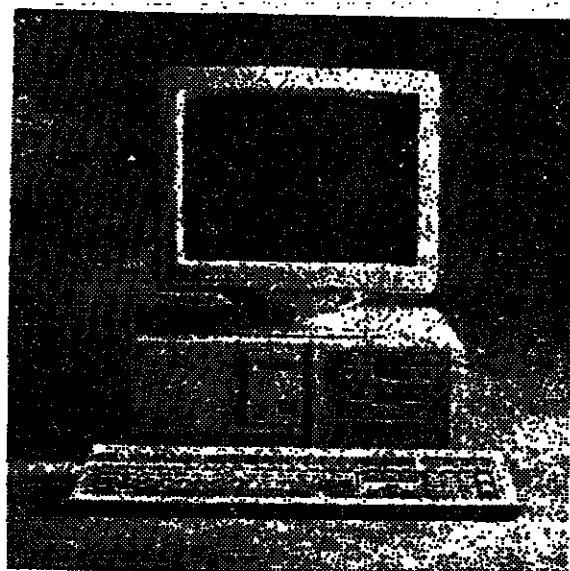
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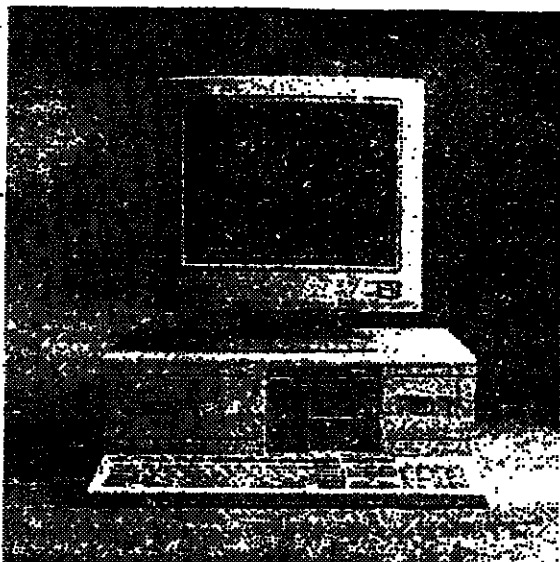
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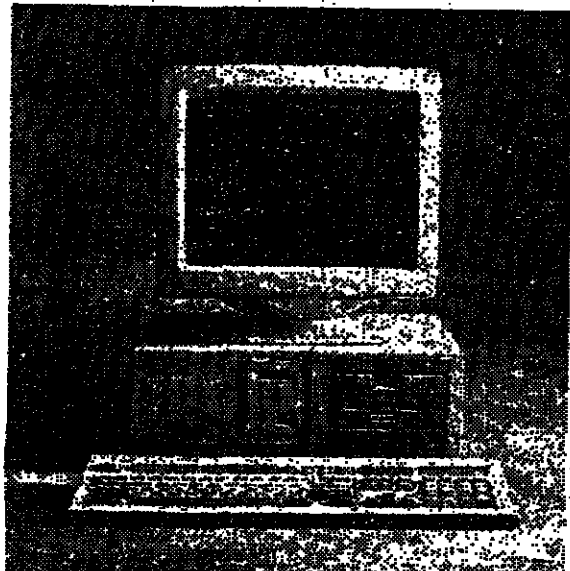
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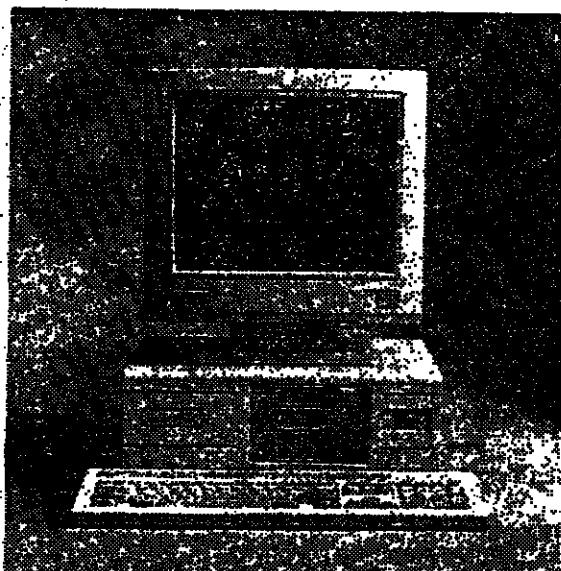
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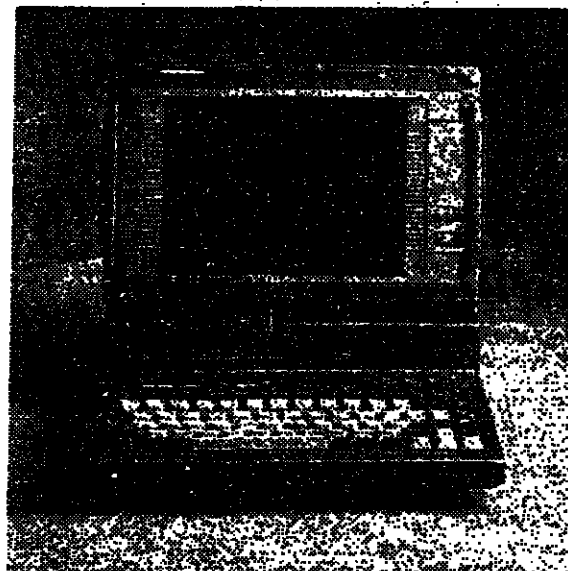
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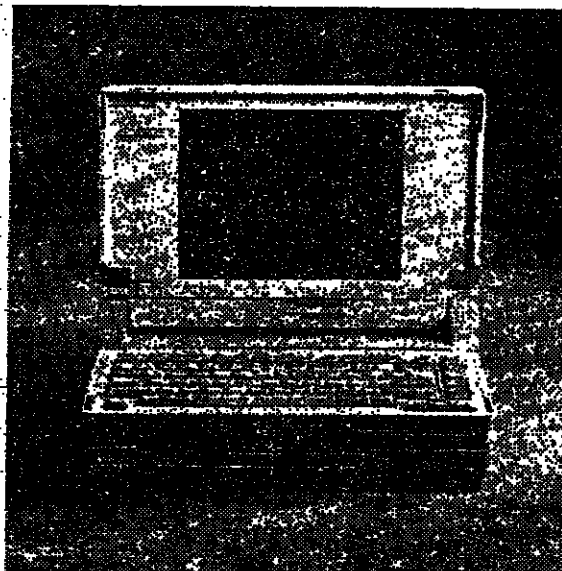
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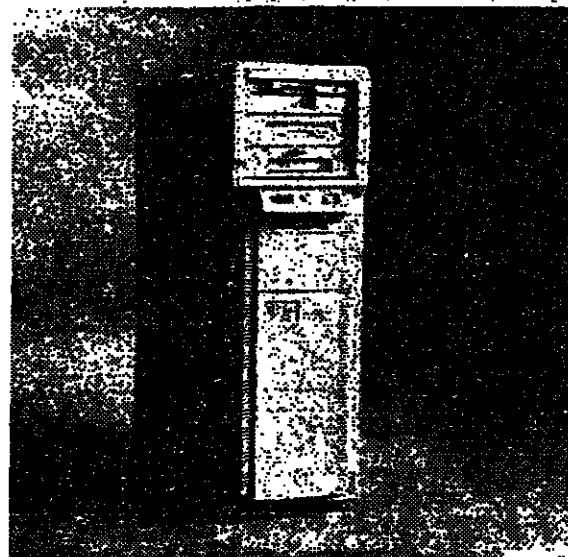
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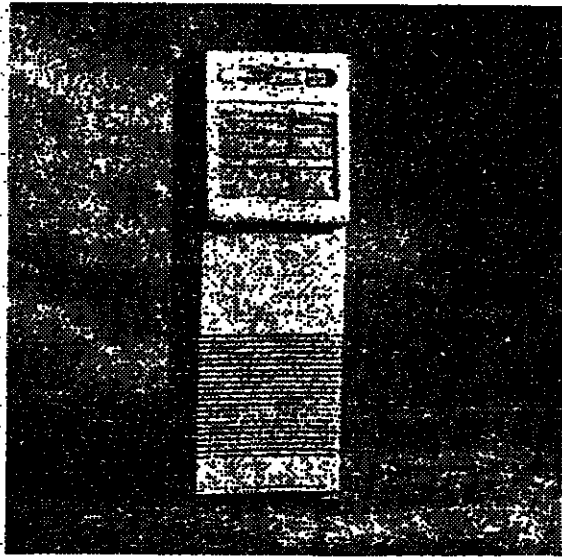
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## PEERS

## House decides to avoid row

By PETER MULLIGAN

PEERS voted by a narrow majority yesterday not to enter constitutional "ping pong" with MPs over an amendment to the Broadcasting Bill designed to safeguard documentaries.

In a big turnout, they voted by 148 to 135 against such a move after Earl Ferrers, the Home Office minister, said that the whole bill could be lost if the two Houses continued to disagree.

The amendment would have added documentaries, education and social action programmes to a list that new commercial television companies on Channel 5 must include in their schedules.

Peers from all sides expressed fears that, without it, these programmes might be squeezed out on cost grounds. The government, however, responded that the television companies must anyway meet a "quality threshold".

The amendment was passed, in a slightly different form, by the Lords with a majority of 27 and then rejected last week by a 160 majority in the Commons.

Yesterday, Lord David, the Labour peer, accused the government of being unprepared to take the necessary action to preserve quality. He said: "We do want to avoid what happened in other countries where, in a deregulated climate, the service has markedly deteriorated".

Lord Norrie, from the Conservative benches, described the programmes as an endangered species. They were vital, brilliant and informative but costly and time-consuming to produce, he said.

Lord Willis, the Labour peer and television playwright, said that there would not be enough advertising to go round and the pressure would be to reduce the cost of programmes. "The pressure will be to get rid of the things which have been the pride and treasure of British television", he said.

However, Lord Renton, Conservative, said that it was not the job of the revising chamber — "by banging on endlessly" — to send unnecessary matters of detail back to MPs. Lord Wyatt of Weald, the independent peer, to protest, suggested that the amendment was an attempt to sabotage the whole bill with the end of the parliamentary session so close.

## Thatcher tells MPs 'hard ecu' might lead to one currency

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

MARGARET Thatcher acknowledged yesterday that Britain's "hard-ecu" plan for a common currency could lead eventually to a single European currency. But she insisted that it would have to be a voluntary arrangement, not one imposed by the European Community.

At one stage she appeared to hint that the question could be determined by referendum of the British people.

Her initial statement on the Rome European council was seen as more conciliatory than her interview comments after the meeting had promised. But as questions continued in a noisy Commons, exposing the divisions on both sides of the House, Mrs Thatcher's language became more colourful. The government would never hand over the powers of

Parliament to Brussels, she said; abandoning sterling in favour of a single European currency would amount to doing just that.

Reporting on the Rome summit, Mrs Thatcher said: "On economic and monetary union, I stressed that we would be ready to move beyond the present position to the creation of a European monetary fund and a common Community currency which we have called a hard ecu".

She told MPs: "Britain intends to be part of the further political, economic and monetary development of the European Community" and said that she believed solutions would be found that enabled the Community to go forward as twelve.

But she also said: "We would not be prepared to agree to set a date for starting the next stage of economic and monetary union before there is agreement on what that stage should comprise... we would not be prepared to have a single currency imposed upon us, nor to surrender the use of the pound sterling as our currency".

The prime minister said that the hard ecu would be a parallel, not a single, currency, but if as time went by, people and governments chose to use it widely it could evolve towards a single currency.

Then came the passage that some MPs took as a hint of a referendum at some point: "Our national currency would remain unless a decision to abolish it were freely taken by

future generations of Parliament and people. A single currency is not the policy of this government."

Government sources were not ruling out last night the possibility of a referendum at some point, although it was clearly seen as a long shot.

In her statement, in which she pointedly put the subject of European monetary union after those of farm prices and the Gulf confrontation, Mrs Thatcher also reminded MPs that she and foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, had in Rome reserved Britain's position on the extension of the powers of the European Commission, increased legislative powers for the European parliament, the definition of European citizenship and a common foreign and security policy.

All those, she said, were matters for the inter-governmental conference in December.

After her statement, clearly agreed with ministers in advance, Mrs Thatcher warmed to her themes in response to questions and echoed the rhetoric she had used in interviews from Rome, to the obvious discomfort of some Tory MPs.

But there was equal concern visible on the Labour front: bench as a number of Labour MPs rose behind Neil Kinnock to take a vigorously anti-EC line.

Mr Kinnock concentrated on attacking the prime minister for uniting Europe against her and dividing her own party. He criticised what he called her "tantrum tactics", saying that by behaving as she had done in Rome she had thrown away sound arguments on questions relating to the pace and direction of economic and monetary union.

Mrs Thatcher enquired in response if Mr Kinnock would have agreed to extend the powers of the European Commission and insisted that it was France and Germany that had been responsible for breaking European unity on the issue of farm prices, stopping the Community establishing a negotiating position for the Gatt round of world trade talks.

She enquired if Mr Kinnock would have agreed to the Commission extending its powers into health "for the sake of being Little Sir Echo and saying 'me too'".

Leading article, page 13



Thatcher: move would have to be voluntary

## ILLEGAL SALES

## Cigarette penalties 'should be tougher'

TOUGHER penalties for shop owners who sell cigarettes to children under 16 were proposed yesterday by Parents Against Tobacco (Richard Ford writes).

They want the maximum fine for illegal sales of tobacco to children to be increased fivefold, to £2,000, and a ban on advertisements for tobacco on shopfronts.

The group is promoting a private member's bill that would also place a duty on local authorities to enforce the law prohibiting cigarette sales to the under-16s and restrict tobacco sales from vending machines installed in licensed

premises. The bill would require warnings about the law on cigarette sales to be published on cigarette packets and to be displayed prominently in shops.

Des Wilson, chairman of Parents Against Tobacco, said that almost half of retailers were "cynically and deliberately selling to children under 16".

The organisers said that the proposed bill had the cross-party support of more than 230 MPs, with almost 30 committed to bringing it in if they were placed sufficiently high in the private members' ballot next month.



Youth politics: Delegates from King's College School, Wimbledon, meeting at Westminster yesterday in preparation for their visit to the European Youth Parliament in Lisbon next month

## DEFENCE

## Low flying must go on, MPs told

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE defence ministry yesterday rejected demands to phase out low-flying sorties under 100 feet as long as fighter crews needed to prepare for possible conflict in the Middle East.

The ministry promised to keep low-level training flights to a minimum, but it insisted that a cadre of experienced Tornado, Harrier and Jaguar pilots trained to fly below radar levels must be kept on stand-by. That meant that the training would have to continue.

The Commons defence committee recommended that flights under 100 feet should be phased out over two years because of improved East-

West relations. The committee's report was published before President Saddam Hussein of Iraq ordered the invasion of Kuwait.

In reply to the report, the ministry said: "As has been demonstrated by the situation in the Middle East, with the deployment of RAF aircraft, there is a continuing need for crews to be fully trained and prepared for low-flying operations at short notice".

It added: "While the government recognises that changes in the political and military situation have led to a general reduction in tension in the central region, the situation in the Middle East has demonstrated the continuing requirement for a capability to react to out-of-theatre situations and for a number of crews to be proficient at 100 feet and below".

The ministry also said that military jets stood the best chance of survival behind enemy lines when flying below 100 feet. "The value of such proficiency was underlined in the Falklands war", it added, "when the success of air operations and the low attrition rates were attributable largely to flying at 100 feet or below".

The ministry agreed to improve its public relations with local communities affected by the low flying and to use simulators where possible to replace flights.

Despite complaints by drivers, the ministry denied that pilots target individual cars or public transport for practice dives. In addition, "special account" is taken to avoid low flying over hospitals where operations or delicate procedures take place.

The ministry added: "The government is well seized of the adverse environmental impact of low-flying training and accepts the need to reduce the amount of such training to the minimum in line with changes to the United Kingdom's defence posture and to ensure that it continues to meet the requirement for realistic, effective and safe training with minimum disturbance to the public."

For the Liberal Democrats, Archy Kirkwood said that the ministry's feeble response would fail to convince residents in areas used for low flying that their needs had been considered seriously by the government.

It was right that the Gulf confrontation should be considered, he said, but it was a short-term matter "that must not be used by the government as a determinant of long-term policy".

House of Commons defence committee 5th special report: Government Reply to Defence Committee Report (Stationery Office, £3.10).

Gulf news, page 10

## TORY GROUP

## Right tries to tighten its grip

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE right wing of the Conservative party is plotting to strengthen its grip over the executive of the backbench 1922 committee.

It is lining up challengers to the two remaining moderates among the six officers of the committee of eighteen.

The executive, chaired by Cranley Onslow, Tory MP for Woking, is the backbench voice of the Conservative parliamentary party. Its members are the "men in grey suits" who, in the event of the prime minister's being seen to lose her grip, would have the unenviable duty of trooping into 10 Downing Street and telling her that she had surrendered the confidence of her backbenchers.

More routinely, the group gives confidential briefings to Tim Renton, the government chief whip, and Margaret Thatcher on backbench opinion and the performance of ministers.

Robert Dunn, a former education minister and MP for Dartford, has been chosen by the "92 group" of right-wing Tory MPs to challenge Sir Giles Shaw, MP for Pudsey, for his post as the committee's treasurer.

Sir Giles, aged 59, who held a succession of middle-ranking ministerial jobs between 1979 and 1987, is on the centre-left of the party. He will start as favourite to beat off Mr Dunn's challenge and is likely to attract much support from older MPs.

However, Mr Dunn, aged 44, who was a junior education minister for five years, will have the backing of the "92 group", which theoretically can deliver a block of 80 votes and has proved better organised than the Lollards, its "wet" counterpart, in recent years.

Dame Jill Knight, another right-wing member of the executive, has been chosen by the right to challenge Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, MP for Wealden, for his job as one of the two vice-chairmen of the committee.



Dunn: the right's choice for treasurer's job

## Peer may prolong dispute

Lord Stanley of Alderley will ask fellow Conservative peers today to defy the government by insisting on the introduction of a national dog registration scheme. If he senses support during the debate in the Lords, he intends to provoke a rare conflict between the Lords and Commons and ask peers to vote again for a register.

A second vote in the Lords for his amendment would leave the government with the choice of accepting the scheme, losing the Environmental Protection bill or prolonging the session while the amendment is argued over.

## Pollution bill introduced

A ten-minute-rule bill to provide for non-food goods to be graded and labelled to indicate the effect of their production on pollution of the environment was introduced in the Commons and given an unopposed first reading.

The Labelling (Environmental Effects and Safety) bill was moved by Mr Richard Page, Conservative MP for South West Hertfordshire. It has no chance of becoming law.

## Church bill

A bill providing for the disestablishment of the Church of England without its disendowment was presented to the Commons by Michael Latham (Rutland and Melton, C), an Anglican lay reader. He said that his bill, which has no chance of making further progress this session and might be presented again next, provides for the democratic election of a church assembly.

## Special PCs

In an effort to recruit more special constables, the Home Office is to launch a publicity campaign early next year. Peter Lloyd, a junior Home Office minister, announced in a Commons written reply.

## EC recruits

In an attempt to get more British civil servants working for the EC Commission in Brussels, a unit has been set up in the Cabinet Office. David Mellor, civil service minister, told the Commons.

Commons (2.30): Questions: Trade and industry. Debate on noise abatement. Lords (2.30): Environmental Protection bill. Commons amendments.

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## PROCUREMENT

## Defence cuts proceed despite Gulf

By JOHN WINDER

CUTS in the defence budget announced in July are going ahead without change, despite the need to send forces to the Gulf. Tom King, defence secretary, told MPs yesterday. He accused Labour of proposing defence cuts that would have left Britain without the forces needed to respond to President Saddam Hussein's aggression.

The full operating costs to the end of the financial year in the present circumstances in the Gulf were expected to exceed £600 million, Mr King said.

He was asked by Roy Hughes, Labour MP for Newport East, to urge patience on all concerned to give sanctions a full opportunity to work and prevail on all concerned to ensure that there was no pre-emptive strike by forces under American command.

Mr King said: "We are seeking to ensure that this aggression is ended by peaceful means and that is why this

country and many others are throwing efforts behind the United Nations embargo to try to ensure that the aggression can be ended without conflict, but, as the leader of your party correctly said in the debate, it would be extremely unwise to discard the military option. It is important that that message is borne in on Hussein, that one way or another he will lose."

He retorted sharply to Tony Benn, Labour MP for Chesterfield, who argued that if Britain and America rejected a peaceful solution and launched a pre-emptive strike, responsibility for the huge number of deaths would rest with the British and American governments.

Mr King said: "Mr Benn was sitting here when I answered a previous question. He knows perfectly well what I said then. We want to see this matter settled by peaceful means."

In an exchange on the cost of Trident,

Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Conservative MP for Wealden and a former defence minister, said that it would be extremely foolish for Britain to give up its nuclear capability because there were many countries that had chemical capability and potential nuclear capability.

Alan Clark, defence procurement minister, agreed. "It would be entirely wrong to give up the nuclear capability to which the present decrease in confrontational tension was entirely attributable at the very moment when proliferation among more widely diffused and less responsible regimes looks imminent."

Jimmy Hood, Labour MP for Clydesdale, asked whether the minister was saying that it would be appropriate to use nuclear weapons if Iraq used chemical weapons.

Mr Clark replied that the nuclear weapon was an essential part of the deterrent capability.

Handwritten signature: J. P. V. 25



## Peking leader to be received at high level on UK visit

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Editor

WAN LI, the third-ranking member of the Chinese leadership, is to be received at a high level when he visits Britain next month. Whitehall sources say he will probably see both Margaret Thatcher and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary.

Mr Wan will be the first senior Chinese visitor to any Western country since the Tiananmen Square massacre in June 1989. He is chairman of the National People's Congress, the Chinese legislature. His visit to Britain was announced a week ago but it was assumed it would be at a relatively low level intended only to break the diplomatic ice.

Mr Wan has been invited to Britain by the United Kingdom branch of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which has often helped to build bridges with countries whose

relations with Britain are strained. He is expected to arrive on November 19.

The Chinese team, much larger than expected — including up to 12 officials and seven or eight members of the people's congress — has picked its requests for meetings at an ambitious level. The government is believed to have drawn the line at a meeting with the Queen, which would be appropriate only if relations were on a firmer footing.

If the decision to receive Mr Wan at Downing Street is confirmed, it will be seen as an effort by Britain to restore China's image in the West and to set aside the anger left by the suppression of students last year.

While this is certain to please Peking and may help Britain in negotiations over Hong Kong, it is unlikely to be

welcomed by Chinese pro-democracy groups who have found shelter in the West.

But some of those involved in the visit see parallels with Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Britain in 1984 before he was appointed general secretary of the Communist party. He was also invited under Inter-Parliamentary Union auspices, but both governments were closely involved. Mrs Thatcher used his visit to say that he was a man with whom she could do business. Her remark helped build a relationship after his appointment and probably helped him to gain wider acceptance in the West.

The government seems unsure whether to view Mr Wan as a potential reformer. He is known to be in favour of economic reform and is thought likely to favour political reform. But if he indeed holds such views it would probably be impossible for him to express them, even privately.

Britain was the first European Community country to send a minister to Peking, but had to obtain a special exemption from an EC ban on high-level visits. To do so it argued that it had special problems because of Hong Kong's transition to Chinese rule in 1997.

Francis Maude, then minister of state at the Foreign Office, made it clear during his visit that he wanted to restore normal links. Later Britain asked its EC partners to drop sanctions against China, and steps towards doing so were taken at a foreign ministers meeting a week ago.

Ministers have been worried for months about the disruption the sanctions caused to negotiations with China over Hong Kong. Although the two countries settled the main issues in 1984 in the Sino-British Joint Declaration, hundreds of matters of detail were left to be resolved by negotiating teams.

Britain's motive is not thought to be confined to the Hong Kong issue, however. With the United States and France, the United Kingdom is concerned that there should be no Chinese veto in the event of a move in the United Nations Security Council to take military action against Iraq. While neither Moscow nor Peking would be persuaded easily to support such a motion, the West wants to keep open the possibility.

Another reason for Britain's move is that China and Asia as a whole are regarded as the most promising parts of the world for British trade in the 21st century.

## China's planners hail census result

From Agence France-Presse in Peking

CHINA'S fourth national census has established that the world's most populous nation has 1,133,682,501 people. The figure, based on the census which ended on July 1 and published by the State Statistical Bureau yesterday, excludes Hong Kong, Macao and the Nationalist-held island of Taiwan.

In a summary compiled by the New China News Agency, the statistical bureau said that in the 12 months preceding the end of the census births exceeded deaths by more than three to one.

At the end of last year China's population was officially estimated at 1.11 billion people, of whom 28.6 per cent lived in urban areas. The fourth national census since the Communist Party took power in 1949 was described as China's biggest social mobilisation in peacetime, involving seven million enumerators. Western experts believe its margin of error is in the tens of millions.

Results of the census are expected to be used to review China's social policies, including its rigid birth-control policy, which limits urban families to one child.

The 1990 census revealed that the average Chinese family has 3.96 members, that males outnumber females, accounting for 51.6 per cent of the total population, and that some 91.96 per cent of the

population are Han Chinese. The remaining 8.04 per cent of the population are officially designated as national minorities and include Muslims and Tibetans. The total number of ethnic minority group members has grown 35.52 per cent since the last census in 1982. The Han Chinese population rose 10.8 per cent.

Annual population growth rate since 1982 has been 14.8 per thousand. In the 12 months up to last July 1, 23,543,188 babies were born in China and 7,043,470 people died.

The census was described as a success by *People's Daily*, the Communist Party newspaper, in an editorial read prior to publication on state television yesterday. It described the results as proof that China's birth-control policy was working, but added that care needed to be taken to meet the government population target of no more than 1.25 billion Chinese by the year 2000.

Under that population-control policy, which was introduced in 1980, urban couples may have only one child. A 1988 amendment allows rural parents to have a second child if their first is a girl. Before the 1988 change the policy had been widely flouted by peasants who were often willing to pay fines in order to enjoy the traditional Chinese ideal of a big family.

## Pakistan intrigue grows as three vie for top post

From Zahid Hussain in Islamabad

A NEW political struggle has emerged in Pakistan as three leaders vie for the post of prime minister. The favourite is Nawaz Sharif, whose Islamic Democratic Alliance decimated Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party in the parliamentary polls, but his bid is being challenged by Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the acting prime minister, and Mohammed Khan Junejo, who was prime minister during General Zia's rule.

The struggle has intensified with the completion of the election process after Sunday's polls for local assemblies, which again saw a reversal of fortunes for Miss Bhutto.

As the national assembly prepares to elect a prime minister in the first week of November, Islamabad has become a centre of intrigue.

Mr Sharif, aged 41, who is also chief minister of Punjab, appeared to have strengthened his claim after his alliance of eight parties routed Miss Bhutto's party in Punjab, the country's largest province.

"Is it not time that a prime minister should be elected from the Punjab?" a member

of the alliance asked. There has not been a Punjab prime minister since 1958, and four successive prime ministers hailed from Sind province.

But among the elected national assembly members, there is a strong faction that favours retaining Mr Jatoi as the prime minister, mainly because he hails from Sind, Pakistan's most turbulent province. Mr Jatoi strengthened his bid by winning a significant number of seats in both parliamentary and local elections in Sind, which is also



Sharif believes it is time for a Punjab to lead.

Miss Bhutto's province. He is regarded as a man of consensus and is favoured by sections of the army and civilian establishments.

Mr Junejo, who was sacked by General Zia in 1988, is the least popular candidate because he is not liked by the army. But as president of the Muslim League he commands a pocket of support.

The outcome will, however, depend on who wins the support of the all-powerful generals. According to reliable sources, the generals at their last meeting on October 11 had decided to back Mr Sharif. But after Mr Jatoi's electoral success, he may still emerge as the military's favourite candidate.

Meanwhile, the alliance's sweeping victory continued to remain controversial, as a French human rights observer team claimed that there was sophisticated fraud in the elections, backing allegations by Miss Bhutto that the polls were rigged. But the US state department said that, despite "some irregularities", it had found no reason to question the results.

## Mandela hits out at Tokyo

From Joe Joseph in Tokyo

STUNG by Japan's refusal to write a large cheque to the African National Congress, Nelson Mandela yesterday accused Tokyo of indifference to the plight of black South Africans and said the Japanese were not yet ready to join the fight against racism.

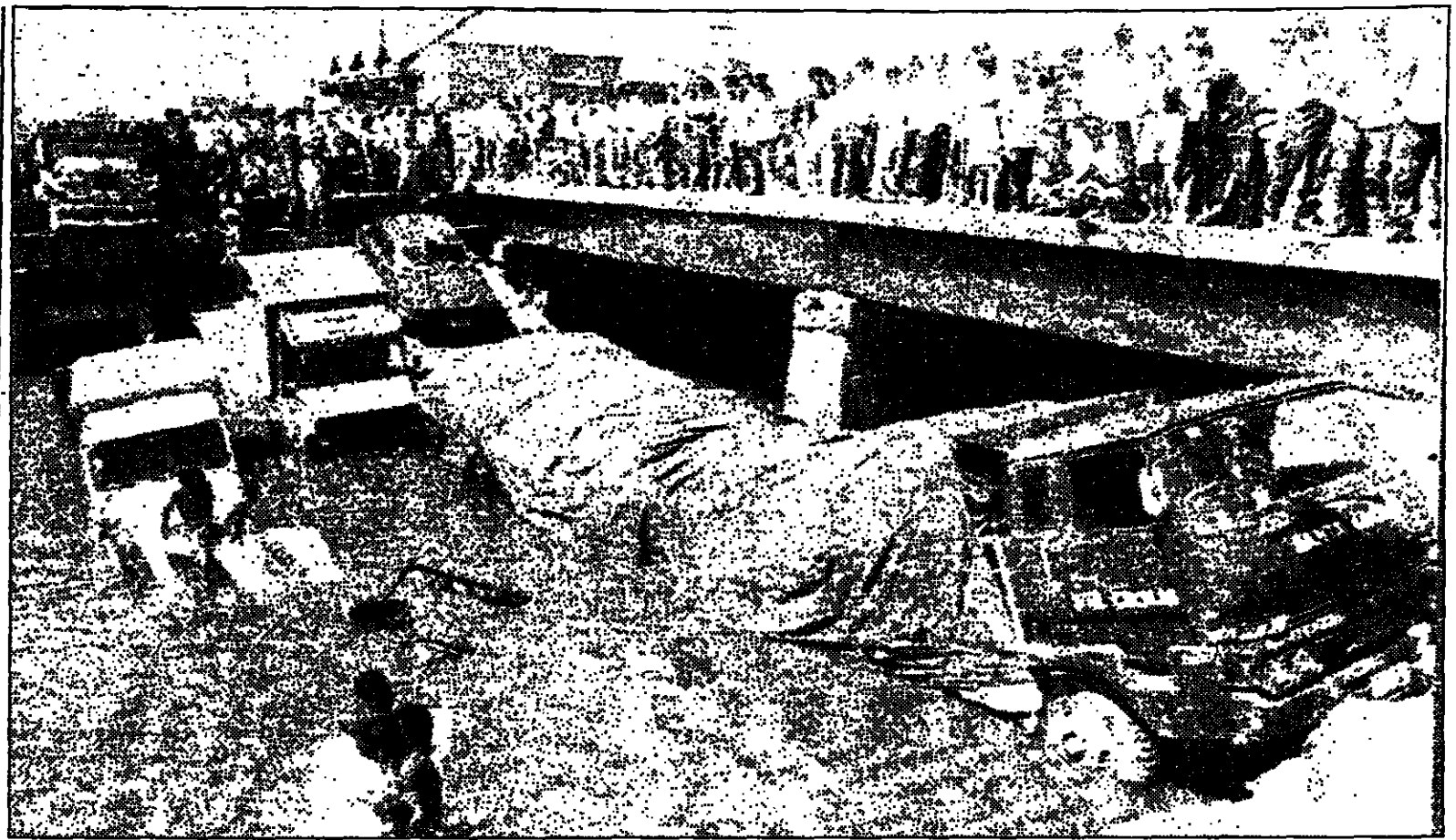
The anti-apartheid leader, who earlier received a standing ovation in Japan's parliament, said that Japan's contribution to the cause of the situation of my people has been absolutely insignificant. He said that the survival in the Japanese cabinet of Seiichi Kajiyama, the justice minister who caused a storm by suggesting that American neighbourhoods go to the dogs once blacks move in and drive out whites, showed just how lukewarm Japan remained about fighting racism.

Mr Mandela was clearly frustrated that he will be leaving the richest staging post on his Asia-Pacific fundraising tour empty-handed. Toshiki Kaifu, Japan's prime minister, went

out of his way to welcome Mr Mandela and tried to repair an image that Japan always puts profit before principle in its dealings with Pretoria. But he turned down Mr Mandela's request for \$25 million (£12.8 million) for the ANC. He said Japan did not give aid to political groups.

Mr Mandela, who picked up \$6.5 million from India, \$10 million from Indonesia and \$15 million from Australia, told Mr Kaifu he was disappointed with Japan's response. The United States had given \$51 million to improve black living standards and Britain £35 million, but Japan had given only \$1.8 million.

Meanwhile, R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African foreign minister, said yesterday that prospects for the country's black majority would be damaged if European countries delayed the lifting of sanctions (Reuters reports from Pretoria). Leo Tindemans, the former Belgian prime minister, said earlier in Pretoria he expected the December EC summit to review sanctions.



Dead end: bystanders surveying the wreckage of a bridge in the Philippines which collapsed under traffic in a Manila suburb yesterday. At least two people were killed in the collapse, while about thirty swam to safety. The bridge had apparently been weakened by an earthquake

## Editor sacked over Indian mosque dispute

By COOMI KAPOOR IN DELHI AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE editor of the *Indian Express* has been sacked in a move apparently linked to growing Hindu-Muslim tensions. The paper's management refused to publish an article Arun Shourie wrote linking V.P. Singh, the prime minister, to militant Hindu organisations and their plan to build a temple on land occupied by a mosque.

Mr Shourie, aged 49, who turned the *Express* into a leading media crusader, said he was not given any reason for his sudden dismissal on Monday. "I was just given a letter at lunch saying 'go', and I went." He has won numerous international awards, including the Philippines' Magsaysay

prize for journalism in 1982, and edited the paper from 1979 to 1982 and from January 1987 until his dismissal.

His article was published yesterday in the *National Herald*, a newspaper supporting the opposition Congress (I) party. It alleged that Mr Singh had once supported the militant Hindu plan to demolish a mosque in the northern town of Ayodhya and start building a temple. It claimed that Mr Singh met militant leaders just before the elections which brought him to power last November and said he backed their building plans.

Mr Shourie last week received a telex from Ram Nath Goenka, the ailing octogenarian press baron, stating that he felt it was in the best

interests of his newspaper chain that Mr Shourie and he part company.

Mr Shourie, who was in Delhi, rushed to Bombay to reason with Mr Goenka. According to Mr Shourie, Mr Goenka was satisfied after their conversation and he assumed his dismissal was withdrawn. However, on Monday the proprietor's grandsons, Manoj Santhalia and Vivek Khaitan, had informed Mr Shourie he should resign.

"To me, my sacking is incomprehensible," Mr Shourie said. He has yet formally to hand over his job to his probable successor, N. S. Jagannathan, the acting editor.

Mr Singh and Mr Shourie fell out two months ago over the prime minister's insistence on a government job

reservation scheme for the lower castes. The *Express* launched a campaign charging that the move was against meritocracy and equality.

Mr Singh is insisting the row that has flared over the mosque plan be settled by the courts. The issue has put his government in jeopardy.

Thousands of Hindu militants attempted to carry out their vow to build the temple yesterday and at least one person was killed as they tried to break through a massive security cordon around the 16th-century mosque. Leaders of India's 100-million-strong Muslim minority have vowed to protect the mosque at any cost.

Leading article, page 13

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# Saddam tells army to be ready for war in next few days

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein yesterday told his generals to be on high alert for hostilities in the Gulf during the next few days. He ordered a review of preparations for street fighting in Kuwait, according to the official Iraqi news agency.

The warning from the Iraqi leader, presumably made public for propaganda purposes, followed the statement by James Baker, the US Secretary of State, that time was running out for a peaceful solution.

American marines yesterday began a 10-day amphibious exercise in the second big test this month of the beach-landing skills which would be needed for a sea-borne assault in Kuwait. Codenamed "Sea Soldier Two", the operation involved elements of the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Amphibious Task Group Two. Some 18 US Navy ships, 20 aircraft and 75 helicopters took part.

Talk in Baghdad of imminent war also followed the

apparent failure of the latest Soviet diplomatic initiative. Yevgeni Primakov, Moscow's envoy, returned home yesterday after talks with President Saddam and with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

The military threat to the two sides in the Gulf confrontation is beginning to sink in. Even General Norman Schwarzkopf, commander-in-chief of the American forces in the Gulf, has adopted a different style of rhetoric, warning of a long conflict leading to the death "of an awful lot of people".

The image of hand-to-hand street fighting and the dismissal of a quick military solution contrast starkly with previous predictions by senior American officials, whose optimism was based on the premise that allied air superiority would deal such a devastating blow to Iraqi forces in the first few hours of battle that the conflict could be ended relatively quickly.

The truth is that Iraqi armoured divisions in Kuwait

are now so well dug in that neither bombing raids from the air nor a land-sea offensive could be guaranteed to dislodge them without enormous loss of life.

With fear growing that diplomacy and sanctions, however successfully applied over the next few months, are unlikely to bring President Saddam to his knees, the military option seems unavoidable. But there are too many unknowns for the Pentagon to present President Bush with a watertight plan.

On the question of casualties, even the most optimistic assessments in Washington put the figure at 30,000, of which 3,000 would be deaths.

American commanders in the Gulf are adamant that the only way to restore Kuwait to its people and to end President Saddam's threat to the region is for a war to be "total". One commander, who took part in dozens of bombing raids during the Vietnam war, said: "I believe we have to use all the capabilities that we've got. We mustn't hold back. Saddam Hussein must realise that we won't fight a piecemeal war as we did in Vietnam."

The commander's reference to Vietnam was double-edged. For although the American campaign in Southeast Asia failed through lack of will power and public commitment, in 1972 President Nixon sanctioned mass bombing raids on Hanoi.

On December 13, 90 B52 bombers passed over the city. The raids continued every night for two weeks, except on Christmas Eve. "I believe if we did the same thing over Baghdad there would be panic among the populace," the commander said.

But would President Bush be able to sanction such a mission? He would never win support from the permanent members of the security council, apart from Britain. Nor would he gain approval from Congress because of the presence of so many Americans and other foreign hostages in Baghdad.

Indiscriminate bombing would also lose America most of the friends cultivated since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2.

Precision bombing of Iraqi air bases, industrial-military complexes, chemical plants, nuclear facilities, command bunkers and arms factories would be a more acceptable operation. But how successful would such raids be?

Iraqi air bases are well defended. Since 1985 Iraq has constructed an integrated early-warning radar network which can track hostile aircraft penetrating Iraqi airspace from any direction. Point defence is covered by a huge array of fixed Soviet missiles (SA2, SA3) and mobile launchers (SA6, SA8, SA13). Iraq also has French-built Roland launch systems with thousands of missiles around Baghdad and at strategic installations.



Happy returns: Wendy Major, centre, of Southampton, reunited with her family at Heathrow airport yesterday after her homecoming from Baghdad. She was met by, from left, Trudy, Karen, her mother Brenda, and Tina

## France set to move its troops

Riyadh — French troops will complete a move to new positions in northeast Saudi Arabia this week, pulling back from the front line with Iraqi soldiers, military sources said.

They said Saudi Arabia had asked the French to withdraw 13 miles to leave Arab forces, believed to be Syrian, facing the Iraqis. They said light armoured and infantry units were withdrawing.

France has 5,500 soldiers, with 48 AMX-10 light tanks and 48 Gazelle anti-tank helicopters, in Saudi Arabia, mostly in the desolate region of Hafr al-Baten. (Reuters)

## Oslo mission

Oslo — A Norwegian delegation, including a former prime minister, Lars Korvald, plans to visit Iraq to urge President Saddam to free 11 Norwegians held hostage, the national news agency NTB said. A foreign ministry spokesman said that the delegation was not supported by the government. (Reuters)

## Hot chocolate

Geneva — US troops in the Gulf have been sent Swiss chocolate that does not melt in the heat. Claude Giddey of the Geneva branch of the US-based Battelle Research Centre, its inventor, said that the new type of chocolate could resist temperatures of up to 50°C to 60°C (122°F to 140°F). (Reuters)

## Medical airlift

Zurich — Switzerland will allow an Iraqi airliner to land in Geneva and pick up medical supplies for delivery to Baghdad but is not making a deal for the release of Swiss held in Iraq, the foreign ministry said. A spokesman said the shipment did not break the air embargo imposed by the United Nations on Iraq. (Reuters)

## Visit denied

Calcutta — Mother Teresa, the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner, said yesterday that she had no plans to visit Iraq on a Gulf peace mission. An official of a London-based charity group had said Mother Teresa had written to President Saddam and King Hussein of Jordan, trying to help in the conflict. (Reuters)

## Smuggled diesel

Hong Kong — In what could be Hong Kong's first profiteering case since the Gulf confrontation, customs officers arrested two salesmen offering cut-price diesel fuel smuggled in from China. (Reuters)

## West has yet to gain the initiative over Baghdad

By ANDREW McEWEEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

ALMOST three months after the invasion of Kuwait, President Saddam Hussein's strategy for retaining the emirate shows little sign of cracking under world diplomatic pressure.

It has been clear since the middle of August that Baghdad's diplomacy was based on playing for time and allowing Western public opinion to lose its appetite for war. The taking of hostages, which at first seemed an own goal, turned out to be part of that policy.

When Iraqi troops in Kuwait began rounding up Americans and Britons on August 13, there was surprise that President Saddam should choose to exacerbate anger in the West.

After the US and British success in isolating Iraq in the United Nations and obtaining the trade embargo, a conciliatory move might have seemed logical.

It soon became evident that President Saddam had decided this was a risk worth taking. He knew there was no danger of an immediate Western attack because its forces would not be in place for several months. Indeed for the first six weeks the US was forced to engage in a military bluff, pretending it was deploying forces faster than was the case.

President Saddam probably calculated that, by the time the West assembled sufficient strength to launch an attack, public anger over the hostages would have been replaced by concern for their safety and that three to six months would be long enough for a peace lobby to develop. It has been

easier to guess how he planned to proceed than to prevent him from succeeding.

Washington, and to a lesser extent London, have been disturbed by signs that support for President Bush's and Mrs Thatcher's uncompromising policy is now slipping.

A headline on a national newspaper's front page yesterday "Iraq considers release of all foreign hostages" must have fed the fears. It reported that Baghdad might free them if the Soviet Union and France committed themselves publicly to resolve the situation peacefully.

Whether the report proves correct or not is unimportant: either way it would be seen as part of Baghdad's strategy of sowing divisions. Its prominence seemed to show that the hostages had indeed become an asset.

The steady trickle of Westerners leaving Baghdad has created an impression that President Saddam may not be entirely heartless. The fact that others have continued to be rounded up in Kuwait, taking the places of those departing at strategic sites, has received little attention.

If President Saddam believes that releasing all the hostages would undermine support for a Western military attack, he could be right. The opposition of a third of the Democrats in the US Congress to the use of force reinforced that impression.

There was no surprise yesterday when Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, said that Baghdad was ready for

dialogue with any international or Arab parties, provided there were no "hostile, premeditated designs".

Baghdad has been keen to encourage a belief that France and the Soviet Union are following a less belligerent policy than the United States and Britain.

In the first ten days after the invasion, Paris appeared anxious there should be no conflict unless under the auspices of a UN force. Once President Mitterrand took personal charge a firmer line emerged, but statements by some French ministers have encouraged Baghdad to try to widen divisions. A recent opinion poll suggested that Britain might be the Western country most inclined to go to war. Baghdad is unlikely to be dismayed by this, knowing that it has no ability to act alone.

James Baker, the US Secretary of State, and Douglas Hurd, his British counterpart, have strongly emphasised the war option and the short time remaining before decisions have to be made. But observers believe that the West needs more time to build up its strength. Its forces are now more than sufficient to contain any Iraqi attack, but no such attack is likely. They are probably not close to being large enough to take on Iraq's dug-in forces, even allowing for superior air power.

It would seem that time and shifts of public opinion continue to work to President Saddam's advantage and the West has yet to find a way of countering this.

## Libya expels splinter group of PLO

FROM PENNY GIBBINS IN TUNIS

A PLO splinter group, the Palestine Liberation Front, led by Abu Abbas, was given 12 hours on Monday to leave Libya, according to diplomatic sources in Tunis yesterday.

The PLF, which was responsible for the 1985 hijacking of the Achille Lauro, the Italian cruise ship, during which an American tourist was murdered, was told it could no longer operate out of Libya. Its offices and training camps were closed and the entire staff, said to number several dozen people, left Libya for an undisclosed destination, sources said.

The expulsions are believed to be the result of a request by the PLO leadership to Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader. The PLO has good relations with Libya and has been frequently embarrassed at having Mr Abu Abbas within its ranks. He has been in disgrace since he cost the PLO its dialogue with the United States after mounting an unauthorised commando raid on an Israeli beach in May. It was allegedly orchestrated from the PLF's Libya base, although this was denied by Colonel Gaddafi.

At the time an aggrieved PLO, which since 1988 has pledged itself to peaceful negotiations, said it knew nothing of the planned raid. Although it says Mr Abu Abbas is under investigation, it did not expel or punish him and, as a result, America suspended its dialogue with the PLO.

Relations between it and America have grown steadily worse since then, with the PLO accusing the United States of preventing the United Nations from acting to protect Palestinians in Israel's occupied territories.

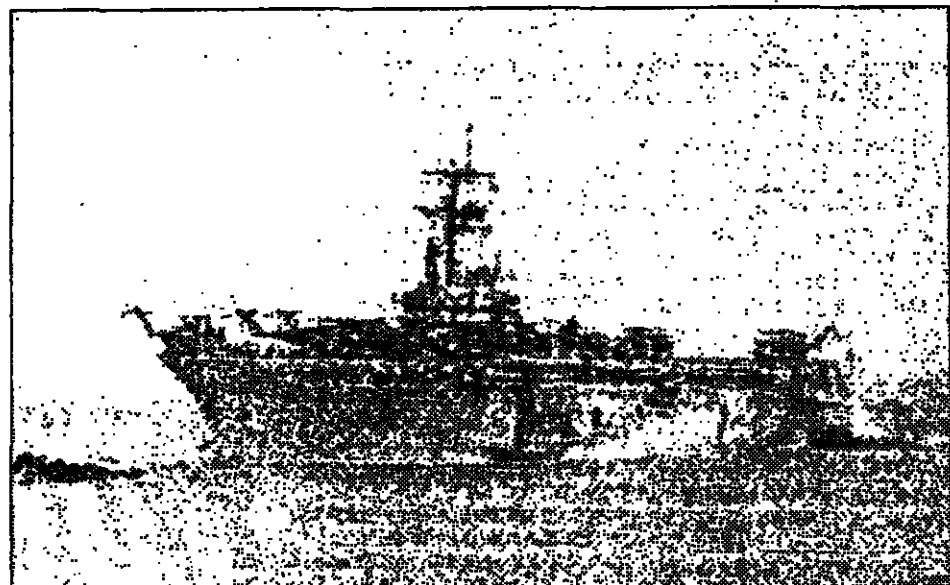
The expulsions may be a sign that the PLO is smoothing the way for better relations with Washington. It has been distancing itself from or curbing other Palestinian groups, notably that of Abu Nidal, whose members were forced by the PLO out of camps in Lebanon and accused of damaging Palestinian interests by taking Western hostages.

Colonel Gaddafi himself is believed to have given the PLF expulsion order, a sign that he too is continuing a policy of distancing himself from terror groups.

Western observers say the PLF may now go to bases in south Lebanon or more likely, to Baghdad. Both Mr Abu Abbas and Mr Abu Nidal have been threatening to attack American interests because of the Western military presence in the Gulf, and the PLO leadership in Tunis has said it will try to prevent such acts from taking place.

Meanwhile, a fresh outbreak of violence in Israel and the occupied territories yesterday threatened to undermine the uneasy calm since last week's spate of racially motivated attacks, and increased pressure on the government to restrict the numbers of Palestinians working in Israel (Paul Adams writes from Jerusalem).

According to Israeli police, an Arab was killed and two others wounded when an explosive device they were preparing at a shop in Bnei Brak, an extreme-orthodox suburb of Tel Aviv, went off prematurely. In Nablus on the West Bank, a Palestinian was shot dead by security forces after he stabbed the guard of an Israeli petrol tanker delivering fuel to a power station. The army placed Nablus and the surrounding refugee camps under curfew.



Sea rescue: tug towing the USS Two Jima into port in Bahrain after an accident which killed eight sailors. Two others were injured yesterday when a steam pipe ruptured in the amphibious assault ship. In another accident, a marine died and three were injured when their vehicle overturned in the Saudi desert.

## Escaped couple tell of invaders' brutalities

By ALICE THOMSON

HUNDREDS of Westerners are still hiding in squalid conditions in Kuwait terrified of Iraqi snatch squads trying to wrinkle them out. Anyone in Kuwait found harbouring a Westerner risks execution and those discovered often simply disappear.

After a stifling week in hiding, Mrs Akel managed to walk about freely using false Lebanese identity documents given to her by the Kuwaiti resistance. It enabled her to search for food but it also meant she was witness to some gruesome sights. In her second week she and her two children were splattered with blood while they watched two young boys being shot for waving a Kuwaiti flag.

"The city has been desecrated. You can laugh when you can't buy a hairbrush, but what do you do when a box of chicken legs costs £500 and there is no bread? You don't understand the word 'nothing' until you see Kuwait — there's not a nut, not a bolt left. Rubbish is piling up and sewage trickling out of the houses is

combined with blood; it's disgusting," she said. Within two days of the invasion, Mr Akel had been seconded to an emergency force to keep water, heating and electricity working on a 16-hour night shift for which he was not paid.

Mr Akel, who was part of a team of 30 engineers, slowly saw his friends disappear. "They took the chief consultant out in front of me and shot him because he wouldn't hang a picture of Saddam Hussein. Another Kuwaiti friend, found carrying 150 Kuwaiti dinars, was sprayed with bullets."

During the first few weeks, Mrs Akel spent her time consoling friends whose relatives had been killed after the invasion. "We had to leave their children's bodies in rubbish bags to give them a decent burial. A lot of Kuwaitis didn't know the fate of their loved ones," she said.

Mrs Akel was sitting at home with the maid when nine officers with machine-guns marched in, and ordered

her to accompany them to headquarters. "I've got high blood pressure and my head was pounding. My husband kept dropping his cigarettes, only the children remained calm. The brigadier threatened to rape me and the children if they found out I was British," she said. "I couldn't believe it when they finally let us go."

That night they fled. But the roads were confusing as Iraqi forces had remained all the streets, Freedom, Jerusalem and Hussein. The only signs pointed to Baghdad 707km (441 miles) away and Mr Akel secretly believed they would never make it. But with his Lebanese passport he managed to talk and bribe his way through checkpoints.

"We arrived in Baghdad and made straight for the British embassy, but there was a demonstration so we drove round and round for three hours before we dared to approach," Mrs Akel said. "The embassy was fantastic. We were flown out the next day."

Mr Akel had heard that Iraqis had been stacking bodies inside Kuwait City's skating rink. "I had to pretend I was Palestinian to creep in, but the stench was so appalling that I couldn't force myself through the door. Bodies were spewed all over the rink on the grey and mushy snow. There was a truck outside waiting to shovel the bodies up. I couldn't believe that this was once a place I'd taken my kids to at the weekends," he said.

"The Kuwaitis were being persecuted, but their resistance movement was risking everything for the British who were in hiding. It was terrifying visiting Westerners' hide-outs and it was getting harder to find them food."

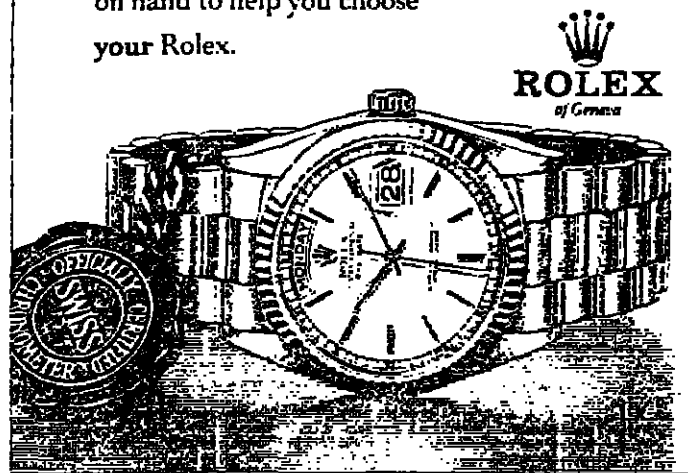
Then two weeks ago the family began to be harassed. Mr Akel was repeatedly questioned about his wife's nationality and told that, if they had proof his wife was British, they would execute him.

Mrs Akel was sitting at home with the maid when nine officers with machine-guns marched in, and ordered

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# Voters run for cover as dirt flies in Texas campaign

From MARTIN FLETCHER  
in HOUSTON

IN THE Texas border country Ann Richards, Democratic candidate for governor, runs a commercial in Spanish mocking her opponent's claim to respect Hispanic women. "Liar!" it says. "The Republican candidate for governor has told us he travelled to Mexico to be 'serviced' by women. How is this for respect?"

Clayton Williams, the Republican, runs nudge-and-wink advertisements depicting Mrs Richards as an extreme liberal feminist with a rabid lesbian following. He has resurrected the alcoholism she conquered 10 years ago. Allegations that she used cocaine in a Dallas bar in 1977 have resurfaced.

Such is the tone of the most expensive, and one of the ugliest, gubernatorial races in US history. It has been a contest waged through what one Texas paper called "dirty-second line and half truths", through much-raking, whispering campaigns and vicious per-

sonal attacks. The candidates and their opponents in the primaries have spent more than \$45 million (£23 million) assaulting each other while largely ignoring such pressing issues as the state's looming \$3 billion deficit.

Politics in the Lone Star state have always been a blood sport, but this year's campaign has sickened even Texans. Both candidates have negative ratings of around 60 per cent. Car bumper stickers read: "Does Texas Really Need a Governor Anyway?" The standard joke, told with bitterness not humour, has the two candidates on a sinking raft. Who'll be saved? The people of Texas.

Support for Mrs Richards has never risen above the mid-30s but she suddenly has an even chance of winning because figures for Mr Williams have plummeted to her level: disillusioned voters are not changing allegiance, just giving up.

Mr Williams cannot stop the rot because he has already bought so much

advertising that voters long ago reached saturation point. Republicans in Washington are horrified. Texas is to gain three or four new US congressmen due to population growth. The governor's veto is vital to prevent gerrymandering by the Democratic state legislature when it redraws the congressional districts.

Mr Williams, a small, jug-eared multi-millionaire rancher, oilman and entrepreneur, should have had the race sewn up. A political novice, he lassoed the Texas cowboy myth and rode it to an overwhelming victory in the Republican primary last March, using \$6 million of his own money to build his "Marlboro Man" image.

By contrast Mrs Richards, the steely, snowy-haired state treasurer and star turn at the 1988 Democratic convention, came to the contest short of funds, with a divided camp, and badly bloodied by a primary dominated by allegations that she had used illegal drugs. Mr Williams promised to "head

and hoof her and drag her through the dirt", but instead the cowboy image has exploded in his face. He likened rape to bad weather - "sit back, relax and enjoy it". It was alleged that he had held "honey hunts" for prostitutes hidden around his ranch. He admitted he was "serviced" in Mexican brothels in his youth. Voters suddenly remembered the reality behind the Texas myth: women treated like cattle, Mexican Americans treated as dirt, and crude, brutal cowboys.

It has emerged that Mr Williams, the self-styled son of the earth, had pumped dry a west Texas beauty spot, Comanche Springs, to irrigate his 12,000-acre alfalfa farm, crippling downstream farmers. Mrs Richards employed investigators to dig up dirt about business dealings of Mr Williams and runs commercials portraying him as a sleazy wheeler-dealer whose bank cheated the poor. She has been rewarded with an official investigation.

Mr Williams and Mrs Richards had a

rare public encounter at a Dallas luncheon on October 11. Mr Williams strode up to Mrs Richards, called her a liar and refused to shake her hand. It was a bad mistake. "Not what John Wayne would have done," said one pollster. That gaffe coincided with the Republican party's budget-battering in Washington, and Mr Williams's consistent 10-15 point poll lead evaporated.

In the last days before next Tuesday's election, Williams aides have become his "handlers", fending off the press, and he is pumping in another \$2.4 million of his own money to try, as one aide said, "to teach the people to love Claytie again". This weekend Mr Williams has President Bush coming to make a third campaign appearance to try to shore up Republican support, but even in Texas, Mr Bush's adopted state, his diminished popularity could make him more of a liability than a help.

Mr Williams appears to have stopped airing a commercial which cast aspersions on Mrs Richards's patriotism by

showing the clip from her democratic convention speech in which she mocked "poor George... born with a silver foot in his mouth".

Mrs Richards is going all out for the votes of blacks, Hispanics and Republican women with a distaste for macho cowboys.

Few will vote enthusiastically. Most, says Brad Coker, president of Mason Dixon Pollsters, will "hold their noses as they pull the lever".

Mrs Richards, an experienced politician, apparently knew what to expect. She told her children before the campaign: "You are not going to recognise your mother by the time they get through with me."

However, Mr Williams, who thought at the outset that being governor was a part-time job, had little idea what he was letting himself in for. He conceded this week that he and his wife "some Sunday mornings wake up and look at each other and say: 'Lord, what have we done to our lives?'"

## Italy believes Britain must fall in line or quit EC

From PETER GUILFORD in BRUSSELS

GERMAN scepticism was Mrs Thatcher's last key European ally in her fight to delay the advent of a single European currency, but that ally has now fallen away, says Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister. She must either fall into line or pull out of the European Community.

"No more Pöhl, no more Waigel. Chancellor Kohl has spoken and this is the official position," Signor De Michelis said in an upbeat interview yesterday with *The Wall Street Journal*.

Britain had drawn false hopes from the scepticism of Karl Otto Pöhl, the president of the Bundesbank, and Theo Waigel, Germany's finance minister. Both appeared to share its doubts about entering stage two of economic and monetary union before deciding exactly what that stage would set out to achieve.

Signor De Michelis is now

confident that Herr Kohl alone speaks for Germany, although he agrees that the fiercely independent Bundesbank cannot be relied on to toe the chancellor's line in the future. Herr Kohl unexpectedly endorsed January 1, 1994, as the starting date for stage two - itself an attempt to steer between the cautious Bundesbank and his more enthusiastic foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

This clearly stiffened the nerve of the Italians in time for last weekend's Rome summit, where Mrs Thatcher's 11 EC colleagues cornered her and agreed to press ahead on EMU without her.

In a characteristically provocative manner, Signor De Michelis said Mrs Thatcher had left herself just two choices: "To accept a compromise or to go out (of the community). I cannot believe that Britain, if it does a simple cost-benefit analysis, would (leave)." He admitted he was a "visionary" (he has attracted widespread criticism for not filling out his vision with sufficient analysis), but said he was convinced that Mrs Thatcher would join her colleagues in a unanimous vote on a new treaty for EMU some time next year.

"October 28, 1990, will be remembered as an historical day of European integration," the churlish minister said.

Clearly riding a new wave of confidence in his much-criticised presidency of the community (most of the criticism came from the British press), Signor De Michelis is offering no consolation to Mrs Thatcher after her isolation at Rome. But others have already begun extensive repairs on Britain's relations with its EC partners.

One German diplomat said after the summit that Britain stood alone only in its desire to put content before timing, and was not averse to the creation of monetary union, or even a single currency. "Britain wants such a currency to evolve rather than have it imposed," he said.

In similarly conciliatory tone, Mark Eyskens, the Belgian foreign minister, said on BBC's *Newsnight* that John Major's alternative "hard" plan was "not dead"; indeed elements of it could be incorporated into stage two, although he said nobody should be surprised to have seen Britain isolated in Rome.

Dutch-inspired plans for a big energy co-operation treaty extending from Western Europe to the Soviet border received a favourable response from heads of government. Such a scheme will not be formally tabled, however, before the next gathering of EC leaders in December, again in Rome.

Leading article, page 13

## Aid for Moscow 'limited'

From PETER GUILFORD in BRUSSELS

THE European Community is cautiously in favour of President Gorbachev's economic reform package for the Soviet Union, believing it to be a realistic approach compared to other more radical reform programmes, officials said yesterday. But, they added, economic collapse and the growing restlessness of the Soviet republics made it impossible for the community to offer wider support.

So far Brussels is prepared to offer Moscow assistance only in the form of training and technical co-operation. But the European Commission expects in the next few weeks to receive requests from Moscow for emergency food and medicine in terms of the agreement by community leaders in Rome at the weekend to send humanitarian aid to the Soviet Union.

Dutch-inspired plans for a big energy co-operation treaty extending from Western Europe to the Soviet border received a favourable response from heads of government. Such a scheme will not be formally tabled, however, before the next gathering of EC leaders in December, again in Rome.

Britain is known to be strongly in favour of an energy agreement, which would encourage greater investment in the Soviet Union by giving political guarantees to Western firms exploiting oil and gas reserves there. Britain also believes the agreement would secure steady oil supplies for the community, offsetting its dangerous dependence on supplies from the volatile Middle East.

The Soviet Union dominated the first round of talks in Brussels yesterday between leading delegates from the world's 24 richest nations. The G-24 group, devised to channel aid to the emerging democracies in Eastern Europe under the guidance of the European Commission, later discussed ways of bolstering reform in the East, in the wake of the catastrophic effect of soaring oil prices on their fragile economies.

Frans Andriessen, the Dutch European commissioner for foreign affairs, is in favour of a special rescue fund to prevent some of the more precarious reforms, such as currency convertibility, from collapsing under the weight of rising oil prices and other side-effects of the confrontation in the Gulf.



Images in stone: President Gorbachev, flanked by his wife, Raisa, and the Pope, featured in new mosaic by Father Ugolino, a Capuchin friar, in the Sacred Heart church at Terni, north of Rome. Father Ugolino met the Gorbachevs at the Vatican last December

## Bonn sees future in its own image

From IAN MURRAY in BONN

GERMANY regarded European political union as no more than a logical extension of its own federal system, Imrard Adam-Schwartz, the minister responsible for European affairs, told the Bundestag yesterday.

There was, she said, no question of Germany surrendering its sovereignty in negotiations about political union with other members of the European Community. She promised that in the final treaty member states would retain enough autonomy to be able to take many decisions at national level.

Political union would be in line with what she called "the principle of subsidiarity", which is the constitutional basis in Germany under which power in appropriate areas is devolved from the federal government to the state parliaments. "Decisions will only be taken in Brussels which can be carried out better at community level than by individual member states," Frau Adam-Schwartz said.

This suggests that just as the Bundesbank wants to see a future European central bank shaped in its own image, the German government wants to see any constitution of a

future European political union moulded to conform with its own Basic Law.

Under the law's terms, individual states are free to pass laws covering 23 different matters, from criminal sentencing to public welfare and from toll roads to consumer protection. The federal government has exclusive rights over just 11 areas, including defence, foreign policy, customs tariffs, postal services, coinage and rail and air transport services.

Under Article 72 of the Basic Law, federal legislators can pass laws outside these areas only when an individual state cannot effectively control any matter or when one state's regulations might prejudice the interests of others.

The minister's statement emphasised that political union was not to be forced on any state and that every community member would have a freedom of choice on what role the EC should play. She pledged, however, for all states to be ready to accept the goal of integration. The EC was the most successful democratic community of nations, she said, and was thus the bearer of hope for the people of central and eastern Europe.

## Brundtland takes helm amid row over EC ties

From TONY SAMSTAG in OSLO

GRO Harlem Brundtland, leader of the opposition Labour Party, yesterday agreed to form a minority government and will become prime minister, probably before the end of the week, for the third time since 1981.

The centre-right coalition headed by Jan Syse collapsed on Monday over the issue of links with the European Community. Among other probable casualties is the European Free Trade Association (Efta), an organisation of European "outsiders".

Efta, the EC's largest trading partner, has four Nordic nations among its six members: Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland. The others are Switzerland and Austria. With Austria's application for EC membership, Sweden's overtures to Brussels, and Norway's discussion of links to the community for the first time since entry was rejected in a referendum in 1972, it is hard to see how Efta can survive.

Sten Andersson, the Swedish foreign minister, yesterday proposed a joint application for EC membership by Sweden, Norway and Finland in the new year. The statement amplified a controversial remark made by Mr Andersson last month during an otherwise routine meeting of Nordic ministers.

Implying that Swedish neutrality was no longer a bar to membership in the post-Cold War era, Mr Andersson said: "I would not rule out the possibility of Sweden's applying for membership in the EC in 1993 if the positive developments in Europe continue."

Ingvar Carlsson, the Swedish prime minister, confirmed the policy at the annual Labour party conference. Mrs Brundtland who, as prime minister, lost last year's parliamentary elections, in part because of her party's refusal to discuss Europe, said the new Swedish line posed no difficulties for her, and hinted strongly that the Swedes had consulted her before Mr Andersson's statement.

Finland, like Sweden, has in the past worried that its neutrality, not to mention its "special relationship" with the Soviet Union, might be compromised by European membership. Following Sweden's lead, recent public opinion polls in Finland have shown for the first time a majority in favour of membership.

It is Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, the urbane foreign minister of

Denmark (the only Nordic EC member), who can take much of the credit for these changes. Earlier this year, he took the unprecedented step of publishing a kind of European manifesto in the leading newspapers of each of the Nordic Efta nations.

In the name of Nordic solidarity he urged leaders to admit that non-membership of the EC would further marginalise the Nordic economies.

The investigators said that Monsignor Marcinkus had, as head of the Vatican bank, given Calvi, chairman of the Banco Ambrosiano, letters of patronage which Calvi used to borrow money. When the bank collapsed in 1982, \$1.2 billion was missing. Calvi fled to London, where he was found dead, hanging under Blackfriars Bridge. His death remains a mystery.

Monsignor Marcinkus has always said that his only mistake had been putting too much trust in Calvi's skill and integrity.

He will return to his native Chicago, which he left in 1969 to become one of the most powerful personalities in the Vatican hierarchy. He will be given a parish and it seems unlikely that he will ever become a cardinal. In an interview he complained: "I've no doubt I'll be remembered as the villain in the Calvi affair."

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NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

## Condemned out of the mouths of babes

Until glasnost, Soviet children were brought up to revere Pavel Morozov, the schoolboy who put the party before his parents and had them shot for hoarding potatoes. In the atmosphere of bodily puritanism now pervading this country, young Americans may soon be tempted to shop their parents for smoking. First, life insurance companies devised policies that are invalidated if the holder smokes. Then came employers who demand non-smoking pledges from their workers, even at home. Now a New York judge has ruled that a parent's nicotine habit should be a factor in deciding custody in a divorce.

The case followed others in the past few months in which courts have ruled on a child's right to live in a smoke-free home. In August, a judge in Sacramento ordered a woman not to smoke in front of her son, aged five. "This is a logical extension of the court's power to prevent a parent from using alcohol or drugs," said Charles Asbury, the lawyer for the boy's father. A Louisiana court has also curtailed a

father's visiting rights because his smoking disturbed his son's health. In the New York case, the judge awarded custody to Catherine Santalino, despite her smoking habit, because he allowed that her husband's cocaine addiction weighed as a more negative factor. John Gemelli, Mrs Santalino's lawyer, was nevertheless upset by the judge's stipulation about her smoking. "What about if the mother or father cook with a high cholesterol diet? Are we going to say that is detrimental to a child?" Other lawyers said that by admitting smoking as a factor in custody disputes, the courts were inviting children to become informers.

One place you can be sure of a smoke-free environment is on US airlines, since most flights prohibit the practice. Attention is now focused on the next most unhealthy in-flight activity: eating the airline food. With hard-pressed companies shaving every possible cent from their costs, the sludge they serve on domestic flights is so poor that nutritionists advise abstinence.

One steward on a recent United flight from New York to Chicago announced the dinner service and said: "We shall be holding a competition for the passenger who can guess what he ate."

Now the pilots are complaining. Those at Pan Am have petitioned their bosses, noting that "when it comes to providing us with meals, all the things your mother said were bad for you are there on the tray". Americans are getting used to hearing the pilots complaining. Morale in Pan Am and Eastern, two of the most troubled lines, has sunk so low it is not unknown for the captain to air his views on management to

passengers in mid-flight. American pilots have their own image problems, particularly since the entire crew of one airliner was convicted of drunken flying.

Ever since Walt Disney used to pursue anyone who purloined the good name of Mickey Mouse, the proprietors of American trademarks have been quick to defend their creations with lawsuits. Now the Northrop Corporation, maker of the B-2 stealth bomber, has unleashed its lawyers in pursuit of the good name of the multi-billion-dollar pride of the US Air Force.

Stealth Bombers Inc of Texas, is "likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake or to deceive" people, according to the Northrop suit. They did not explain the nature of the possible confusion. John Hughes, aged 28, the head of the condom firm, says Northrop is being "absolutely ridiculous". But he does acknowledge that the contraceptives draw on the image of the radar-proof bomber. Their sales slogan is: "They'll Never See You Coming."



## Change of Interest Rates

INVESTMENTS  
With effect from 1st November 1990 the rates of interest listed below will apply to savings and investment accounts both new and existing.

OTHER ACCOUNTS  
Interest rates on accounts other than those listed are available on request.

	Net Rate for 1990	Gross Rate for 1990	Net Rate for 1991	Gross Rate for 1991
STERLING ASSET				
Annual Interest	£25,000 plus 10.00%	11.00%	11.10%	10.61%
	£10,000 up to £25,000	10.00%	10.20%	9.70%
Monthly Interest	£25,000 plus 10.00%	10.00%	10.20%	9.70%
	£10,000 up to £25,000	9.00%	9.20%	8.70%
	£1,000 up to £10,000	8.00%	8.20%	7.70%
	£1 up to £1,000	7.00%	7.20%	6.70%
INSTANT SAVER				
Annual Interest	£25,000 plus 10.00%	10.00%	10.20%	9.70%
	£10,000 up to £25,000	9.00%	9.20%	8.70%
	£1,000 up to £10,000	8.00%	8.20%	7.70%
	£1 up to £1,000	7.00%	7.20%	6.70%
CURRENT ACCOUNT				
Monthly Interest	3.45%			
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT				
Annual Interest	£25,000 plus 10.00%	10.00%	10.20%	9.70%
	£10,000 up to £25,000	9.00%	9.20%	8.70%
	£1,000 up to £10,000	8.00%	8.20%	7.70%
	£1 up to £1,000	7.00%	7.20%	6.70%
RETIREMENT INVESTMENT ACCOUNT (Personal Pension Plan)				
Annual Interest	£10,000 up to £25,000	8.75%	8.95%	8.45%
	£5,000 up to £10,000	8.25%	8.45%	7.95%
	£1,000 up to £5,000	7.75%	7.95%	7.45%
	£1 up to £1,000	7.25%	7.45%	6.95%

Interest will be paid net of basic rate tax at the appropriate rate on interest will be paid gross subject to receipt from the appropriate tax authorities. The rates of interest are subject to change without notice. The rates of interest are subject to change without notice. The rates of interest are subject to change without notice.

ABBEY NATIONAL  
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# Regrouping for the 90s

Martin Jacques

According to the opinion polls, the Conservatives are lagging well behind Labour on education. This is hardly surprising. The social agenda has always been the Achilles heel of Thatcherism. The latest poll findings, however, indicate something even more worrying for the government: people are now more concerned about education than any other issue. This suggests that the Conservatives' capacity to command the agenda of the future is on the wane.

For much of the 1980s, Thatcherism succeeded in doing this. While Labour seemed to be caught in a time-war, Thatcherism successfully identified itself with change. Any political project, particularly one as radical as Thatcherism, needs social groups to be the bearers of its ideas for change. Thatcherism has had three: self-made entrepreneurs, the aspirant working class and City dealers after Big Bang. Enterprise culture was the unifying theme. These groups came to symbolise both the mood of the Eighties and the Thatcherite project.

Nothing more clearly reflects the decline of Thatcherism than the fortunes of these groups. City scandals, higher interest rates and a reaction against conspicuous consumption have dramatically lowered the reputation of the City dealer. The message of ITV's excellent City soap-opera, *Capital City*, is rather different now from what it was a year or so ago.

At the same time, many of the figures who epitomised the entrepreneurial revolution have either gone bust or are in financial difficulties. The idea of the aspirant working class also began to turn sour with the emergence of Ladsamoney, the figure that identified Thatcherite aspiration with narrow material gain. That souring has since been reinforced by the economic downturn.

But if the social groups which set the tone of the Eighties and came to symbolise Thatcherism have had their day, which groups will express the spirit of the Nineties?

Predictions here must combine the guessable and the unknowable. We can guess which groups will feel expansive and self-confident, and sense that they are going with the grain of change and are setting the tone of society. The unknowable factor is political. Whichever party wins the next election will inevitably have a powerful influence on the national mood and the fortunes of different groups.

Thatcherism has been unusually good at identifying such groups, largely because radical projects need social groups to be the agents of their transformations. By contrast, Labour has no clear view of which groups will bear its standard, because it has no coherent project for change.

The social group most likely to influence the spirit of the Nineties seems to me to be the highly-skilled technical, scientific and managerial stratum of leading-edge, hi-tech industries, both in the small-scale units to be found in science parks, and in the large-scale research centres of international firms. In the Nineties these groups will expand rapidly, and increasingly set the tone of economic activity.

They are strongly European in orientation — in their work, their culture and aspirations — and they attach great importance to the quality of life, in particular the environment. Their work-ethic, furthermore, is based on co-operation and networking as much as on competition and the market. In sum, they are thoroughly in tune with the times.

They also have a strong stake in the quality of education. Indeed they are the symbol of the idea of human capital as the new measure of value. What is more, while they may be very well-paid, they are nevertheless dependent on good public services. It is here that one can see the danger for the Conservatives. The group most likely to set the tone of the Nineties, and so act as a symbol of the future, has a powerful interest in an issue — namely education — which is now regarded as the nation's top priority, which has acquired a new strategic significance, and which the Tories cannot be trusted with.

My second group is completely different, not least in origin, for it comes from the north rather than the south, where the technical salariat is primarily based. The last couple of years have seen a striking revival of the spirit of northern cities like Manchester.

There is no particular social group which symbolises this revival, though the young are important, but there is unquestionably a new mood of civic and regional pride, a new sense of confidence and identity. This is partly a reaction against London and the domination of the south which has been such a feature of Thatcherism, but it is also about discovering a cultural identity within a wider context, notably Europe and, in the case of the Olympics, the world.

Finally, by the millennium, women will comprise roughly half the workforce. As a consequence, the pressure for a new and more flexible model of work and society will be even greater. The incidence of part-time work will continue to grow, as will career-breaks, parental leave, and sabbaticals. The last decade has seen all these things expanding despite the dominant political ethos of the time. The coming decade could see women as the cutting-edge of what might be described as a flexible revolution, which is likely to be central to the spirit of the times.

...and moreover

## CRAIG BROWN

It has been a thrilling week for Shakespeare lovers. We had hoped to discover a lone sonnet, maybe, or even a couple of facts from an unfinished play, but what we finally chanced upon surpassed our wildest dreams. There, buried under an ancient rose bush on the outskirts of Stratford was a superb cache of contemporary interviews with our most famous playwrights.

At first we failed to register the full majesty of what we had found. The mildewed cache consisted of two old tape cassettes, an ancient video, and a couple of pages torn, seemingly at random, from 16th-century magazines. It was only when we saw that one of the pages was headed "The Sunday Interview: Jemima Askin meets Will Shakespeare" that we knew we were on to something.

This was what we had longed for! However much we had enjoyed the plays and the poems, we still yearned to know more of the man himself. A knowledge of the person could only serve to illustrate his extraordinary creations. Sure enough, the Jemima Askin Interview gave us a remarkable insight into the way Shakespeare ate asparagus, and much, much more, including his annoying habit of speaking with his mouth full.

The article started with a telling description of the interviewer arriving at the Stratford hostelry where they had agreed to meet:

"I sat in the Curverie for precisely 25 minutes before Mr Shakespeare deigned to turn up. The Curverie, it should be said, was not decorated to my taste: cheap flock wallpaper, indifferently painted, and the waiters were by turns impatient and inefficient..."

This was exactly the sort of detail Shakespearean scholars had been craving. After another 12 paragraphs on the shortcomings in the pattern of the carpet — not to mention a marvellously waspish account of the hostelry manager's contretemps with an upstairs squire — who should enter but William Shakespeare himself! Once again, Jemima Askin did not miss a detail:

"His shoes were slightly stained with what looked like blackcurrant juice, and his breeches had an air of decrep-

itude. His ruff was, indeed, rough, and could have done with a good dose of starch. His goatee beard was, I thought, a mistake, giving him the look of a supernaturally court jester or a minor suitor of a discredited duchess."

Jemima Askin then asks the famous playwright if she can pump him for a glass of mead, the third most expensive drink on the list ("I got the firm impression that, had he been paying, he would have chosen something more modest, but his close friends had already warned me that he was never one to miss a free drink").

They then sit and talk for a while, mainly about Jemima Askin's previous interview with Christopher Marlowe ("that squeaky voice got right up my nose, and about her fascinating childhood and adolescence. She notes with interest that Shakespeare refuses the bowl of peanuts, yet tucks into the olives with gusto").

The manager then shows them into the dining-room (she notes with surprise that Shakespeare forgets to let her go through the door first). The table-mats then allow Jemima full rein for her waspish turn of phrase!

From then on, the interview is a veritable treasure-trove for the Shakespeare buff. First, there is the famous "Asparagus Incident" in which Jemima Askin notes with distaste that Shakespeare eats two spears at once. Then he asks for more butter, neglecting that simple word "please", and finally there is a word or two on Shakespeare's late plays.

"I happened to mention to the Great Playwright that my seat for Hamlet at the Globe was jolly uncomfortable, and that there was a woman in front of me wearing a large hat which obstructed my view of the stage; furthermore, there was only one interval, and the service at the theatre bar was at best sluggish. He rewarded this information with an obliging grimace, but it clearly did not enter his Great Playwright's Head for one second that he should offer me a full refund."

Jemima's revealing interview with Shakespeare — wittily titled "Bard Breath" — ends there, but the other interviews are quite revealing, and I shall return to them next week.

Mary Ann Sieghart welcomes a new book on sex education for children at primary school

# Never too young for the facts of life

Doubtless the usual squeals of outrage will greet yesterday's launch of *Knowing Me, Knowing You*, a new sex education book for primary schools. Indeed Victoria Gillick complained about it before it was even published: "They have had 20 years of this kind of sex education in secondary schools, and we have the highest rate of promiscuity in our history. Now the same perversion is being introduced to little children. God help us if they don't stop this now."

Perversity? Can Mrs Gillick really believe that teaching children the facts of life — facts that they must learn sooner or later — is unnatural as, say, pedophilia or incest? God help us if these views ever have any influence over the educational establishment.

One of the best favours a parent or teacher can do for a child is to talk openly about sex. The easiest way to avoid inhibitions and anxieties about sex in later life is to learn about it early, to talk about it as freely as any other natural part of life, and to think about it rationally. Ignorance or guilty feelings about sex are far more likely to lead to difficulties in adult life.

When, then, should sex education start? There is an advantage in talking about sex before children start experiencing sexual feelings, so that discussion can be freer from the embarrassment brought on by confronting adolescents with their own secret urges. Moreover, children are exposed to sexuality through films, advertisements and television long before they reach secondary school. And many girls now embark on puberty while still in their last year or two of primary school.

It is simply not wise to let children acquire a distorted view of sex through playground myth when they could be learning the facts in class, and would prefer to do so. Many perfectly respectable primary schools already teach all the facts about sex, up to and including penetration, in biology lessons. Children learn about the sexual organs one week, the heart and lungs the next. They would think it bizarre if they were allowed to learn about one part of the human body but not another.

Research by the Schools Health Education Unit at Exeter University showed that three-quarters of pupils aged seven wanted to be taught about human reproduction, and two-thirds of girls wanted to

learn about the imminent changes to their bodies.

The puritan lobby seems to be terrified that learning about sex encourages schoolchildren to be promiscuous — as if sex were not a natural human urge, as if not knowing about it would stem all sexual desire. As Sigmund Freud pointed out, pre-pubescent children are sexually latent. Sex education in primary schools will not lead to a rash of sexually active ten-year-olds. But once children reach puberty (whether knowledge about sex or not), they feel the same urges that other animals — which have never been told about sex — feel at puberty.

There is no point in trying to deny these sexual feelings. The question is how best to deal with them? No sex education class should ignore the moral dimension to sex and human relationships. Nor do they. As Her Majesty's Inspectorate has said, "In sex education, factual information about the physical aspects of sex, though important, is not more important than consideration of the qualities of the values, standards and the exercise of personal responsibility as they affect individuals and the community at large."

In *Knowing Me, Knowing You*, children are led through all sorts of exercises about human feelings, relationships, needs, differences and responsibilities before they even start to learn about the human body.

Equally, no moral dimension can be discussed or understood until the basic facts have been digested. Teachers are aware that there are many views about the morality of sex. In any class, the parents of some of the children will believe that sex before marriage is immoral; others that it is perfectly acceptable. Teachers can explain these diverse views, and they can encourage children not to be shy about holding the former view. They can also explain the moral hazards of sex, about hurting one's partner, about the undesirability of bringing an unwanted baby into the world, and how one partner can sometimes be exploited by the other.

Sex is too important to be ignored. But it is beset by pitfalls. The physical ones — unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases — are entirely avoidable, but only through knowledge. Research carried out by the Guttmacher Institute between 1982 and 1986 has shown that the

lowest rates of teenage pregnancy are found in countries where, among other factors, there are effective sex education programmes.

Of course teenagers can and do sometimes decide not to have premarital sex at all. That is what Mrs Gillick and many others would like. But they cannot shut their eyes to the fact that other teenagers will want to. Better, surely, that when they do, they are able to avoid pregnancy or catching a sexually-transmitted disease.

Sex education classes are undoubtedly difficult to teach. Many teachers might prefer to hand the responsibility back to parents, but the vast majority of parents want schools to teach their children about sex — 96 per cent, according to one survey.

Moreover, parents are, on the whole, bad at teaching their children the facts of life. Most children know them by the age of 14, but nearly half say they heard them from friends. Those parents who are most likely not to want their children to learn about sex at school are also those who are least likely to talk openly about sex at home. Why should parents foster their own sexual repressions on their children?

# Will Dublingate finally slam the door against Haughey?

Conor Cruise O'Brien reports on the drama of a 1982 tape recording that could scupper the Irish government

The Muse, wrote W.B. Yeats, "is a woman, and loves warty lads who tell lies". If that be so, the reigning favourite of the muse, the warriest lad of all, is undoubtedly Brian Lenihan, deputy premier of the Irish Republic, candidate for the presidency and closest political confidant of the Taoiseach, Charles J. Haughey.

Mr Lenihan's living became so flagrantly exposed last week that it now endangers Mr Haughey's government, which faces a vote of no confidence on the issue this afternoon, and looks likely to fall. Inevitably, the Lenihan affair is compared to Watergate, since in both cases a politician's lies were exposed by a tape. In Dublin, the word "Arasgate" has been coined, from "Aras", the Gaelic word for the presidential residence in the Phoenix Park. (The word "Dublingate" is primarily a British usage, not a Dublin one.)

Yet Arasgate and Watergate are different in one important respect. Richard Nixon had serious reasons for lying. He was covering up a criminal offence — burglary — committed in his interests by his associates. Mr Lenihan's present troubles, however, derive entirely from his own exposed departures from the truth, and not from the intrinsic force of any exterior accusation against him. Mr Lenihan lied himself out of a non-existent difficulty, into a possibly terminal one.

The circumstances are these. In January 1982, Garret FitzGerald advised the president — then, as now, Patrick Hillery — to dissolve the Dail after a vote went against his coalition government. Under the Irish constitution, the question of whether or not to dissolve the Dail at the request of a defeated Taoiseach is a matter within "the absolute discretion" of the president. Mr Haughey and his col-

leagues, then on the Opposition front bench, were anxious that President Hillery — a former party colleague of theirs and nominated for the presidency by their party — should use his discretion and refuse the dissolution. In that case, Mr Haughey was ready to form a government. Mr Lenihan telephoned the president's office, in the hope of persuading him to refuse. The president declined to take their calls, and dissolved the Dail.

These transactions were immediately known to the political world in Dublin and were publicly referred to without being denied — until, that is, they became a focus of contention in the current presidential election. Dr FitzGerald referred to those telephone calls, claiming that they represented an improper attempt to bring pressure to bear on the president, and that impropriety cast doubt on Mr Lenihan's fitness for the presidency. Dr FitzGerald also implied that Mr Lenihan, if elected president, would have difficulty in resisting any similar pressure applied by Mr Haughey.

Up to that point, neither Mr Lenihan nor Mr Haughey was in any real trouble. They could have safely acknowledged the telephone calls, while denying any intention to apply improper pressure. They could have claimed to be ringing the president's office for the legitimate purpose of informing him of their willingness to form a government, a matter pertinent to the president's exercise of his "absolute discretion" in the circumstances.

Instead of following this prudent and sensible course, both Mr Haughey and Mr Lenihan immediately, and it seemed, almost automatically, vehemently denied making any such calls. Mr Haughey called Dr FitzGerald a liar on the floor of the Dail, and



Lenihan: he lied when the truth would have done no harm

other ministers took up the charge, repeatedly. The theme of Dr FitzGerald's alleged lies became prominent in the presidential campaign. Then the tape surfaced.

This was the tape of an interview that Mr Lenihan gave soon after the Hillery incident to a graduate student doing a thesis on the Irish presidency. The tape was played at a press conference organised by *The Irish Times* and was then broadcast on radio and

television. Listeners could hear Brian Lenihan's well-known voice talking about the telephone calls both he and Mr Haughey had made to the president. The president, said Mr Lenihan, was "strict and conventional", whereas Mr Haughey, in contrast, was "gung-ho". Mr Lenihan, on the tape sounded relaxed, and even complacent. He and Mr Haughey were a dashing pair of warty lads, it appeared, while the poor presi-

dent was a bit deficient in the warty department.

This was not, of course, the tone that Mr Lenihan had been assuming in his presidential campaign, in which he had been trying to sound as "strict and conventional" as anyone. Mr Lenihan has not tried to deny the authenticity of the tape, but does entirely deny his own account, as recorded on the tape. He sticks to his other story, that those telephone calls never happened. His remarks to the student were "casual", and so referred to transactions that never happened. His later denials, on the other hand, are based "on mature reflection" — a phrase more relished by his political enemies than by his friends.

After the tape was aired, Mr Lenihan's rating in the presidential polls dropped by 14 points, and he slipped from first place to second (at least in Dublin). But the presidential race is now overshadowed by a governmental crisis. Fianna Fail, which under Mr Haughey has become the warty party par excellence — had no trouble, at least at first, in sticking by Brian Lenihan — lies or no lies, who cares?

But Mr Haughey's government depends for office on six Progressive Democrats. The Progressive Democrats left Fianna Fail in 1982 because of Mr Haughey's "gung-ho" conduct of affairs. They are to a man and woman "strict and conventional" and they would have the greatest difficulty in pledging their confidence in, or remaining in, a government whose Taoiseach and deputy they know to have lied to the Dail and the public over a matter with constitutional implications.

It appears that the fall of the government can now be averted only by Mr Lenihan's prompt resignation. At the time of writing, Mr Lenihan is still saying he will not resign. But if he does not resign before this afternoon's vote, he may find himself having to do so after it, along with the rest of his government colleagues.

## Book versus Camra

No sooner has A.S. Byatt cashed her Booker Prize cheque than the Whitbread Book of the Year Prize runs into trouble. Members of the Campaign for Real Ale are planning to picket next week's shortlist announcement in London, in protest at Whitbread's takeover and closure of the much-loved Higgsons brewery in Liverpool.

Unlike the Booker, the prize is open to contestants from any branch of literature. Frances Wheen's biography of Tom Driberg is widely tipped. Although the winner will not be announced until the new year, the bearded man with personalised hydrometers and an encyclopaedic knowledge of original gravity are keen to embarrass the sponsors at every opportunity. They have been boycotting Whitbread pubs and products, and are particularly peeved to find that Liverpool poet Roger McGough is one of the Whitbread judges.

"He has sold out," says Merseyside's Dave Goodwin, of Camra's national executive. "How dare he say he's a Scouser when he's so out of touch with the grass-roots feeling on his home territory?" McGough is unrepentant. "I didn't know this Higgsons thing was going on," he said from his home in Nottingham Hill. "It was a sad day when the brewery closed, but I shall be judging the prize."

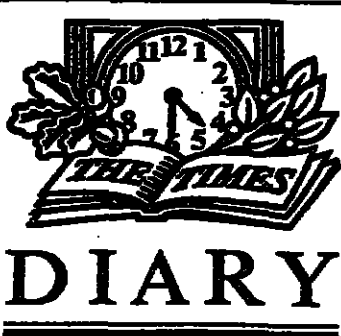
Stephen Cox, Camra's campaigns manager, says real ale drinkers do not want to appear philistines when faced with such luminaries as Malcolm Bradbury, Penelope Fitzgerald and Ben Pimlott, who are also judges. "I might bring some dinner-jacketed pickets along for the prize-giving," he says.

"Cloud-cuckoo-land", the phrase Mrs Thatcher used about European monetary union at the Rome summit, is perhaps more telling than she knew — and more so than Gerald Kaufman's letter on the page opposite suggests. Aristophanes invented the mythical kingdom in his comedy *The Birds*, partly to satirise his fellow citizens' imperialistic ambitions in Sicily. As readers of *Thucydides* will know, the Athenian army was wiped out while invading Syracuse, and the failure of the expedition contributed to the defeat of Athens in its war against Sparta. The PM picked an ideal European metaphor for grandiose projects that fail.

## El Mickey?

Was Walt Disney the all-American we imagine? Was he even of British stock? According to the *Times* obituary in 1966, he was born in Chicago on December 5, 1901, of an Irish-Canadian father and a German-American mother. Seventeen years earlier he had been in Britain trying to trace a supposed link with Edward III. So aficionados of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck will be surprised by claims that he was in fact Spanish.

According to a guidebook approved by the ministry of information and tourism in Madrid, Disney was born Jose Guisao, son of a dockworker in the small southern town of Mojcar, Carlos Alemeandros, the author, says the young Jose and his widowed mother were taken to America by a kindly sea-captain, who found them jobs on a Californian farm; the farmer, one Walter Disney, adopted him and gave him the Disney name. Mojcar, says Alemeandros, first



became aware of the connection about 35 years ago when two Hollywood aides arrived saying Disney wanted to marry and needed a copy of his birth certificate. According to the book, Disney never admitted he came from humble Mojcar, but never denied it either. "When asked about it, he used to shrug his shoulders and say with a smile on his lips: 'E clui lo sa?' (Who knows?)"

The Disney organisation in California is less coy. "He was born in Chicago," says a spokeswoman. "The Spanish are lying."

## Inside information

The few guests who recognised him behind the cloak and dagger were surprised to see Air Vice Marshal "Johnnie" Walker, a senior figure in British military intelligence, at a London party marking Romania's armed forces day.

What could he be doing there? Not discussing closer military ties: Tom King, the defence secretary, has politely ignored a request to train Romanian officers under a military exchange programme, and in June the Americans cancelled a naval visit to the Black Sea port of Constanza.

Military attaches at the party put two and two together and came up with Saddam Hussein. When the butcher of Baghdad saw Ceausescu as a fellow spirit, up to 5,000 Romanians were thought to be in Iraq, many working on military projects. With the new, albeit imperfect, Romania siding with the West against Saddam, debriefing sessions with key engineers would be highly prized by Western intelligence.

## Dead green

Firm in their belief that environmental protection does not end at the graveyard gate, Britain's undertakers have organised a seminar to analyse the green revolution and its relevance to their industry. In the new year, members of the National Association of Funeral Directors will meet to discuss a variety of topics

the association. "We have to move on this issue."

Of equal concern are the inroads into tropical forests made by customers who order expensive hardwood coffins. "You can now request a coffin made from wood from an approved forest in which trees are replaced as they are felled," says Gornall. The funeral directors hope that Chris Patten, the environment secretary, will take more than a passing interest in their conference. The environment is, after all, a matter of life and death.

## Hard on Hardie

A 1909 painting of the socialist pioneer, Keir Hardie relaxing with other MPs on the House of Commons terrace is now gracing the walls of the Harcourt Room, only a few yards from where it was painted.

The work, by Milly Childers, was bought soon after completion by Sir Norman Lamont, a Conservative MP — no relation to the present number two at the Treasury — who took it to his ancestral home, Knockdu House, in Argyll. There, it stayed until the contents of the house were auctioned earlier this year. Patrick Cormack, chairman of the Commons works of art advisory committee, was alerted to the painting — which over the years had been presumed lost — and bought it.

But while MPs can pay tribute to Hardie in only workmen at the Commons have been more than cavalier with Hardie in bronze. Finding his bust in their way, they took it down and dumped it under a table. In an early day motion, the four Scots Nat MPs demand that when the bust has to be taken from its pedestal, "it should be displayed in a place of prominence and honour".



including the alarming amount of smoke disgorged from the nation's crematoria. "The recent environment bill talks about smoke emissions from chimneys, and crematoria are not up to that standard," says Lionel Gornall of

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "هذا هو اليوم"





1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## TOMORROW'S ENTENTE?

Margaret Thatcher's view of French policy towards Europe as a cocktail of opportunism was richly confirmed by the Rome summit. On monetary union, President Mitterrand's double act with the German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, can have been no surprise: ever since German unification became inevitable, the French have been even more insistent on EMU than the Germans. But France's support for Kohl's refusal to strike a deal on farm policy, a decisive blow against the Gatt talks and against freer world trade, owed as much to Mitterrand's desire not to rock any electoral boats in Bonn as to France's own cowardice towards its farmers.

But Mrs Thatcher should not be too rude about the French. There is little doubt that the president of the European Commission, Jacques Delors, was genuinely anxious to avoid a showdown on EMU in Rome. He has become increasingly convinced that the Community needs Britain's wholehearted participation, as he recognises that the arguments constantly thrown up by Britain raise substantive constitutional issues and are not synthetic covers for naive chauvinism.

Every nation's approach to European union is rooted not in cosmopolitan idealism but in its leaders' perception of "how this will play back home". M Delors has political ambitions in France. He rightly senses a nationalist undercurrent in domestic French politics. In five years, voters might have little truck with Mitterrand's public commitment to an (undefined) European "federal finality". M Delors knows an insurance policy when he sees one, and subsidiarity — statutory protection for national rights from interference by Brussels — is just such a policy.

France's enthusiasm for European integration has always rested on an understanding of that country's best interests. The language is no longer that of *Europe des patries*, which de Gaulle believed would preserve French power at the centre of the world's most potent confederation of nations. That concept depended on maintaining the partnership between economically strong Germany and politically and militarily influential France as one between "horse and rider", with West Germany providing the muscle, France the brains.

The collapse of the Eastern bloc exposed the limits to French power while enormously increasing the actual and potential power of Germany. Hence French enthusiasm today for a federal structure to bolster French influence while containing that of a united Germany. M

Mitterrand's fear is that once a single European market has been achieved, Germany might lose interest in ceding power to Brussels, or to some majority-ruler central bank, and issue orders straight from Berlin. At that point, French influence over the EC would dwindle and anti-EC domestic pressure would rise. The more detailed the negotiations on political and monetary union become, the clearer may become the similarities between French and British reluctance to abandon national prerogatives.

The political consensus on European union within France between the main parties of left and right has already begun to show fissures. The RPR, M Chirac's Gaullist party, fought the elections for the European Parliament last year on the theme of a "Union of European States". In *Le Monde* yesterday the RPR secretary-general, Alain Juppé, took outright issue with "the internal dynamic of Brussels technocrats" which would transform the EC into a superstate, "heavy in bureaucracy and meagre in democracy". The RPR is distancing itself from a single European currency, and M Juppé's insistence on proper respect for national competence and the importance of national identity could become tomorrow's political orthodoxy.

French politicians are increasingly worried by the gap that has opened between all the main parties and the electorate, closely linked to the gap between the elitist technocrats' enthusiasm for European federation and popular anxieties about competing in the single market, about immigration and about the long-term submergence of French identity. The gainer from these worries has been Jean-Marie Le Pen, support for whose Nationalist party now stands at 15 per cent of the electorate and is based no longer merely on the poor urban vote, but also on a racist variation of traditional nationalism.

"France for the French" is a slogan common to small French shopkeepers and farmers alike. Not for nothing has Mitterrand sought to retain support by pursuing, outside Europe, an intensely nationalist foreign policy. The challenge for British policy in Europe is not to pander to this isolationism, but to work with the grain of French fears for their national identity. The underlying vitality of Gaullism could make the pursuit of subsidiarity a common platform for the development of a European Community in which Mrs Thatcher and Mitterrand could happily cohabit.

## HEALING INDIA'S WOUNDS

Government in India has come to a halt. Yesterday's tumultuous events in Ayodhya have plunged relations between Hindus and Muslims to a worse level than at any time since partition. The government's policy of enlarging reverse discrimination for the backward classes has set caste against caste. There are armed insurrections in Punjab, Kashmir and Assam with no political attempt to check them. Severe recession threatens as the Gulf confrontation forces up petrol prices and inflation. The short-lived minority administration of Vishwanath Pratap Singh has hopped from one crisis to another.

Mr Singh, whether or not he is serious about yesterday's offer to resign, faces a vote of confidence in the Lok Sabha next Wednesday which, since the withdrawal of support by the Hindu nationalists of the Bharatiya Janata Party, he is bound to lose. He has always said that under such circumstances he would not resign, but would press for a dissolution and a new general election, in which he might improve his position. The backward castes favoured by his new policy might well vote for him. So might the Muslims, grateful for his staunch defence of the integrity of Babur's mosque in Ayodhya. These groups make up, respectively, 52 per cent and 10 per cent of the population.

President Venkataraman is, however, not constitutionally bound by a request for a dissolution from a minority prime minister. He is likely to ask the leader of the biggest party, Rajiv Gandhi, to try to form a government. That would be a dilemma for Mr Gandhi. He must be flattered by this recovery in his fortunes, but it is said that he does not

want to resume power at this time. Plainly, to head a minority administration would put Mr Gandhi at the mercy of some unreliable small party's transient favour. But nor does he wish for a general election just now. He would prefer to support some dissident from Mr Singh's party, until the electoral conditions are more favourable.

The obvious dissident would be Chandrashekhar, who has been a leading light in the opposition since he split from Congress under Indira Gandhi. He has never held ministerial office, but has continuously manoeuvred to undermine his rivals. He could come to power with Mr Gandhi's support either by unseating Mr Singh at a meeting of the Janata Dal on Sunday, or by persuading at least 47 other members, a third of the party, to defect with him. That would get round the anti-defection laws which insist that MPs crossing the floor of the house must face a by-election. It would not be a good solution.

An election should be avoided if possible. This is not the time for India to undergo that divisive agony. The death toll which is mounting daily in the communal and caste violence would rise. The country cannot afford the astonishing £650 million that the polls would cost so soon after the last hustings.

Mr Venkataraman should use his presidential authority to try to form a government of national unity. Little ideology divides the parties. What India needs is an end to strife and populist gestures, and a government capable of stern administration. The grasping leaders in white homespun cotton must — at least temporarily — sink their differences in the interests of their electors.

## MERELY PLAYERS

The impending closure of the Royal Shakespeare Company's operations in London is outrageous. The company this year received an 11 per cent rise in its government subsidy after a decade in which this subsidy has risen from £2.5 million to £6.5 million, only just behind inflation. Having chosen the high-risk policy of expanding output (and staff) and hoping it could browbeat ministers into meeting any resulting losses, the RSC finds itself close to bankruptcy. Past indulgence by the Arts Council and a report declaring its expansion "underfunded" are no excuse. The RSC is subsidised to run a flagship house in the capital. This is the sort of failure which, in a politician, would lead to demands for resignation from the RSC's famously outspoken stage.

Some crisis of this sort was probably inevitable from the moment in 1982 that the RSC moved into the unwelcoming, and inefficient Barbican. An ugly building, high fixed costs and demoralising facilities have all militated against commercial success (though the London Symphony Orchestra, a fellow resident, has thrived). But the RSC did not help itself. Under the leadership of Trevor Nunn, it was notoriously averse to private sponsorship. Its recent, successful, conversion to fund-raising has helped reduce subsidy from almost a half to just over a quarter of income, but this has been too little and too late.

Observers are sceptical whether closing for four months for a net saving of £1.1 million is remotely sensible. There is a suspicion that a repeat of more popular productions and a reduction in staffing (the RSC employed 700 people last year) could reduce the accumulated deficit by more than closure. Nor does this take into account the savage impact of closure on

the other hardpressed businesses in the Barbican. These yesterday accused the RSC of playing crude politics with their livelihoods. The RSC now says that if it does not get more than the proposed 2.5 per cent increase next year — closure notwithstanding — it will abandon London altogether, relying on the resulting media furore to put pressure on the arts minister, David Mellor.

Mr Mellor should promptly tell the RSC's chairman, Geoffrey Cass, that any such threat would lead to a drastic cut in subsidy. Taxpayers do not need to provide £6 million for a theatre, playing largely to tourists, in Stratford, though they might pay for the RSC's excellent touring programme. Other companies, more tightly managed and doing (at present) more exciting work, have a strong claim to some of the cash that goes to the RSC. The expansion of the RSC out of Stratford in 1960 was a noble venture. But the RSC might benefit artistically from a period of provincial retrenchment.

Art is, in some sense, sacred. Public subsidy for art is not sacred but is justified, subject to constant public debate and scrutiny. No theatre company has a life tenure on subsidy, however great its past. Some old fogeys must fall if young bloods are to be given their heads. The RSC is a business that has run itself into trouble, as have many others in the arts. Some, such as the excellent Young Vic theatre, are struggling to pull themselves up by their fundraising bootstraps. The RSC should cut its costs, not slash its output. If it refuses to do so, then Kenneth Branagh's Renaissance Theatre Company or Michael Pennington's English Shakespeare Company might be equally eager to carry forward the work of the bard.

## Stop-go danger for universities

From Professor Maxwell J. Fry  
Sir, Last year, I moved back to Britain (after 17 years abroad) from the University of California to the University of Birmingham. It surprised me to read in your leader on British universities (October 27) that the British university system is too extravagant. If this country of over 53 million inhabitants cannot afford to educate 362,100 students in research universities, we have indeed reached a sad state of affairs.

You hold up American state universities, which concentrate on teaching, as an alternative model. Take, however, the State of California with half the population of Britain. It funds a research university, the University of California, with an enrolment of 144,600 students. In addition, it finances a predominantly teaching university, the California State University, which enrolls about 350,000 students. California also boasts a number of well-known private universities, such as Cal Tech and Stanford. I heard no one complain that there were too many research universities in California.

It seems that two issues need separate consideration. One is whether or not all British universities should have the status of research universities. A simple and cheap solution here would be to give the name university to all polytechnics (if they wanted it). This could also be a first step in eradicating the binary divide.

A separate issue is whether the student/staff ratio in research universities should be raised. The academic staff at British universities could easily "process" three, five or ten times the number of students without giving up research time, i.e. without devoting more time to teaching. I left a research university with a student/staff ratio well over three times higher than the student/staff ratio in British universities but have not reduced the time I devote to teaching. There is no doubt which system I would prefer for my own children.

Yours faithfully,  
MAXWELL J. FRY,  
The University of Birmingham,  
The Birmingham Business School,  
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT,  
October 29.

From the Chairman of the  
Committee of Chairmen of the  
University Councils

Sir, This committee, which is comprised of chairmen of the governing bodies of universities, includes industrialists, professional men and women and former senior public servants. As such, we take a broad view about the needs

of our institutions and the public which they serve.

Universities have responded with enthusiasm to the calls from successive secretaries of state for an expansion of student numbers and a broadening of the age and social mix of the intake. The fact that universities are significantly above the student numbers for which the Government has specifically funded them is evidence in itself of their commitment. They have also responded vigorously to the Universities Funding Council's request for their plans up to 1994-5 with bids for a growth of 19 per cent.

Such an expansion can only be contemplated on a properly planned basis, with the necessary steps being taken to provide teaching space, equip laboratories, appoint staff and find or build student residences. To do otherwise would be unbusinesslike, would be potentially to let down students and their parents and, most serious of all for the long term, would affect the quality of education which we must provide if we are to compete successfully with our European neighbours.

This whole process of expansion, however, has been placed in jeopardy by the decision of the UFC to put forward planning in suspense for 1991-2 (report, October 26). Only a month ago, the Public Accounts Committee criticised the UFC for not having in place the planning and financial arrangements necessary for universities to draw up realistic financial forecasts.

Universities genuinely believed that the period of enforced contraction and stop-go planning had been brought to an end by the Government's commitment to raise the proportion of the age group entering higher education to 25 per cent by the late 1990s and they prepared their institutional plans accordingly. In doing so, they had to balance arguments about quality with a proper regard for economy and efficiency. All this seems to have been put back into the melting pot but, more important, the educational futures of potential university entrants and the needs of employers for highly-qualified manpower are being put at risk.

If Government and the UFC are looking to the universities to provide for growth in student numbers of between 15 per cent and 20 per cent by 1994-5 and further expansion thereafter, we must have a longer planning and funding horizon than one year.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH W. TRY, Chairman,  
Committee of Chairmen of  
University Councils,  
Brunel University,  
Uxbridge, Middlesex.

From Mr D. W. Bellamy

Sir, Is not the moment opportune for two desirable though unrelated reforms? First, now that we have joined the exchange-rate mechanism, to calculate our cost-of-living index, and hence the inflation rate, on the same basis as our European partners.

Secondly, to revise compensation for severe injuries to health to allow for the payment of a moderate lump sum and an indexed annuity, with safeguards for young dependants and spouses.

Recent huge and punitive settlements appear to disregard the income yielded by the award. And I cannot be the only one to find it distasteful that, since heavy damages usually imply a lessened life expectancy, relatives may find themselves endowed with a substantial fortune because of the ill luck of one of their number or have control of it during the lifetime of the sufferer.

Yours truly,  
DAVID BELLAMY,  
13 Addison Road,  
Gorleston, Norfolk.

Day-case surgery

From Dr E. J. McGuire  
Sir, I am amazed at the naivety of the Audit Commission's recommendation (report, October 25) that health authorities should increase day-case surgery to cut down waiting lists.

Although it is undeniable that carefully selected cases can be treated without danger on a day-case basis and that the number of patients that can be treated in a given number of beds is in an inverse ratio to the length of in-patient stay, the association should recognise that the more work carried out the greater the cost.

Although we would all like to do more work for the greater good of the population's health, lack of money prevents us from doing so.

Yours faithfully,  
E. J. MCGUIRE,  
The Bricklayers, Clay Hill,  
Goudhurst, nr Cranbrook, Kent.

Parcel post

From Mrs Jane Evans  
Sir, Earlier this year the parcels division of the Post Office became Parcelforce, a separate operation which would supposedly be more efficient. Previously, to collect an undelivered parcel, I made a five-minute journey to the local post office. Under Parcelforce, I have to travel to my "local" parcels depot, which is a 30-mile round trip to an industrial site on the other side of Northampton.

Care for the customer is the first tenet of the commercial world in which I work. Will the Post Office wake up to that basic rule?

Yours faithfully,  
J. C. EVANS,  
8 Dove Close,  
Towcester, Northamptonshire.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Challenge on 'myopic' traffic plans

From the Director of the  
Civic Trust  
Sir, As a speaker on the conference platform used by the Secretary of State for Transport to castigate "myopic planners" for London's traffic problems (report, October 25), may I register the bewilderment and disbelief felt not just by myself but by many of the delegates present who were largely non-planners.

Post-war new towns in Britain, which were the product of strategic rather than local thinking, are by any standards one of the resounding successes of sensible planning. They were a response to desperate conditions of high density and low amenity in our cities and were supported by planners and politicians alike. Ironically, however, it was the planners who warned of the increasing car ownership to come and of the dangers of assuming that self-containment would ever be more than partial.

The traffic chaos of London has rather more to do with lack of national policy for the regions that might have eased developed pressures on the capital, with the hiatus in strategic city-wide planning which even business interests now deplore, and with an alarming lack of investment in, and support for, public transport. Such investment is indeed now contemplated but it seems we will be close to the next century before we have one cross-rail link when Paris already has three and is building another.

I suspect that most planners would not disagree with the secretary of state's objective of balance but surely that is something we have to plan for. And where we need "integration" is between transport investment of all kinds and land use, with a view to trying to reduce the need to travel.

Keeping nerve in Gulf

From Mr Richard Luce, MP for  
Shoreham (Conservative)

Sir, *The Times* is right to advocate steadiness and consistency of purpose by the international community in dealing with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait (leaders, October 24 and 29).

The creation of stability in the Middle East is a world interest. The fulfilment of the United Nations resolution demanding total withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate Government is an essential precondition for the creation of stability in the Middle East. Failure to achieve this will give a green light to Saddam Hussein and others to expand their empires and will weaken the resolve of moderate Arab states to resist it.

We now face a rare opportunity in the Middle East to mobilise the forces of moderation against those who believe in extremism, violence and expansion.

The single most important way of achieving this is for the United Nations, supported by the vast majority of the international community, to continue to get a clear, determined and united

Raising speed limits

From Mr Ian Wilson

Sir, May I suggest that the conviction of the Princess Royal for speeding (report, October 23) is symptomatic of the contempt into which our speed limits have fallen.

The time has come for a review of blanket speed limits, giving due weight to the views of the Association of Chief Police Officers and the fact that motorway speed limits in particular are widely disregarded.

A modest increase to 80 mph for cars on most motorways and dual carriageways would be more realistic and introduce a differential between cars and coaches. A rise to 70 mph on "A" roads could be reduced locally, where conditions require it. Speed limits as a whole might then be better respected and police enforcement made both easier and better accepted.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN WILSON,  
18 Wellington Road,  
Taunton, Somerset.

From Mr Philip Chappell

Sir, Your leader highlights equity withdrawal in the housing market as the chief cause of the recent inflationary boom. But your cure, treating equity withdrawal as a conventional consumer loan but leaving genuine housing finance untouched, merely adds another inefficiency to the savings market.

The real distortion in the housing market springs from the gullibility of building society depositors, many of them elderly, who have been fobbed off with a negative rate of return, in real terms on an after-tax basis. Depositors need to demand a proper return which reflects the risk of inflation. Lending institutions need no longer distinguish between housing finance and consumer loans. The Government should withdraw the fiscal privilege given to mortgage interest, along with all other fiscal privileges. Sanity would be restored to the housing market, choice and competition to the savings market and fiscal equality to the tax system.

Of course, house prices would fall by about a quarter nearer to the level of housing costs in Europe. Apart from bankrupting a few lending institutions, would it be so dangerous to prick the housing balloon in this way?

Yours faithfully,  
PHILIP CHAPPELL,  
22 Frogmal Lane, NW3.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

That was precisely the modest objective of new-town thinking and seems also to be endorsed by the recent environment White Paper, which presumably the Secretary of State for Transport stands fully behind.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN BRADSHAW  
(Chairman, Transport Panel,  
Royal Planning Institute),  
Civic Trust,  
17 Carlton House Terrace, SW1,  
October 26.

From Sir Colin Buchanan

Sir, Cecil Parkinson, the Transport Secretary, names "myopic planners" for the new and expanded towns round London, and claims that these places are the cause of present transport troubles. The concept of the new towns came from Sir Patrick Abercrombie's two great reports — the County of London Plan, 1943, and the Greater London Plan, 1944.

These reports covered every aspect of London life — population, jobs, housing, schools, open space, roads, railways, and so on — but the really big thing was the recommendation that one million people and their jobs should be moved out from the overcrowded slums to new and expanded towns in the country. It was a staggering idea, a huge act of social betterment, and it attracted world-wide interest. From a proposal it became a reality. It was done.

Shame on you, Parkinson, for calling Abercrombie a myopic planner — for that, perhaps unknowingly, is what you have done.

Yours truly,  
COLIN BUCHANAN,  
Appletree House,  
Lincombe Lane,  
Boars Hill, Oxford,  
October 28.

message across to Saddam Hussein that we will not relent until such time as he withdraws from Kuwait. There must be no misunderstanding and no failure of nerve.

During my recent visit to Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, I found a complete unity of purpose on all this. The Arab leaders in the area are thinking positively about how to create greater regional stability through military, economic and political cooperation. It is, of course, for the Arab states to take the lead on this but no one should underestimate the long-standing friendship which these countries have with Britain and their desire to seek our advice and help.

A new opportunity is emerging for the Western world and the international community to work with the moderate forces in the Middle East to defeat the cancer of extremism and violence. It will require statesmanship. A pre-condition for success, however, is the total withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate Government. On this we must not waver.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD LUCE,  
House of Commons.

Bridleway evidence

From Mrs Caroline Clayden

Sir, When brideway rights are in dispute it is necessary to provide evidence of the use of the route as a brideway continuously over a period of 25 years. This, of necessity, means asking members of the public to be prepared to stand up at a public enquiry and be questioned in detail on their memories of using the route on horseback.

In two recent cases in this area two elderly ladies gave evidence for us. The aggressive nature of the questioning by solicitors acting for parties opposed to the brideways, reduced them almost to tears and their evidence became confused. Both brideways were subsequently lost.

Such insensitive handling of elderly witnesses compounds the problems we already face in providing user evidence over 25 years from an increasingly mobile population. I believe a written affidavit from senior citizens should be acceptable and carry as much weight in court as a personal appearance.

Yours faithfully,  
CAROLINE CLAYDEN  
(Chairman, North-East Somerset  
Bridleways Association),  
The Old School,  
Holcombe, Somerset.

Given the bird

From the chief Opposition  
spokesman on foreign affairs

Sir, No wonder that Britain exasperates our European partners. First the Prime Minister runs amok in Rome. Then *The Times* seeks to expatriate for England a classical Greek comedy.

Citing Mrs Thatcher's reference to cloud-cuckoo-land, your diplomatic editor claims that Europeans were stunned by this obscure "English metaphor." What has *The Times* come to when it is not aware that cloud-cuckoo-land was created in 414 BC by Aristophanes in his marvellous *The Birds*? Far from being an English metaphor, cloud-cuckoo-land is part of our common European cultural heritage.

Perhaps the Greek Prime Minister could enlighten Mrs Thatcher at the next summit — provided she lets him get a word in edgewise that it is the Greeks who have a phrase for it.

Yours sincerely,  
GERALD KAUFMAN,  
House of Commons,  
October 30.















## MEDIA

## Farewell, faction

A CHOICE of words is now available to replace "faction" as a description of the blending of fact and fiction in drama-documentaries. The second edition of *The Longman Register of New Words* offers, for example, "mockumentary" for radio or television programmes made in the style of a documentary but containing fictional elements. An appropriate term for *The Cook Report* might be "confrontationism" and "documentarism" and "infotainment" are also useful standbys for current affairs programmes blurring the line between news and entertainment. The register, which specialises in keeping "its finger on the lexical pulse of the English language", has also come up with "cassingles", otherwise the top 40 hits on cassette, and "flashforwarding", the opposite of flashbacks.

## Brand invasion

COCA-COLA and Pepsi might be the most recognisable western brands throughout eastern Europe, but Nivea, Nescafé, Levi's and McDonalds are not far behind, according to a survey by Signal International, the market researcher. Poles, Czechs, Soviets, Hungarians, Yugoslavs and the former East Germans tend to consume more soft drinks and sweets and smoke more than their western counterparts. Most interviewees wanted fresh food more than anything else, followed by fashionable clothing and footwear, cars, household appliances, books, leisurewear, furniture, consumer electronics, fast food, cameras, records, tapes and CDs.

## Press protest

NEWSPAPER editors have been urged to defend investigative journalism in a last-minute barrage of letters to the Home Office and Tory MPs protesting about the likely criminalisation of some journalistic practices by the forthcoming Criminal Justice Bill. The bill, expected to follow the recommendations of the Calcutt report, would make it illegal, unless given permission, to photograph or record interviews on private property, or place a surveillance device on private property to obtain information for publication. The Newspaper Society and the Guild of British Newspaper Editors are angry that they have not been consulted about the bill's contents.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

## The rubies who must be read

What is the essence of a good columnist?

Charles Wintour considers, on examining some of the leaders in the field, that having knocked around a bit is an asset, while modesty is not

To say that a man is "living on his wits" usually implies that he is engaged in raking in easy money through pretty nefarious activities, barely on the right side of the law. The *Collins English Dictionary* uses an alternative definition which is no more flattering: "to gain a livelihood by craftiness rather than hard work". Yet if any journalist "lives on his wits" more than the rest he (or she) is the columnist, and I doubt whether any of them would suggest that it is easy work, although the desired result may well be easy reading.

Perhaps the easiest read is Alan Watkins, the political columnist of the *Observer*. This week, beginning with a sage observation about blowing one's own trumpet, that he attributes (possibly imaginatively) to Lord Beaverbrook, he covers the post-Eastbourne political scene, commenting on the way that entry into the ERM had not so much blown a hole in John Smith's hull as deprived him of his trousers, and concluding that Labour is now the party of Europe, high speed trains, clean streets, even the rights of man, up to a point. It was all as enjoyable as an early Wodehouse, and rather more informative.

But Watkins is a political commentator, along with such fascinating pundits as Peregrine Worsthorne, Hugo Young, Peter Jenkins and Woodrow Wyatt. On the whole they tend to be in harmony with their newspaper's opinions (unsurprisingly in the case of Mr Worsthorne, who runs the Comment section of the *Sunday Telegraph*). The true columnist is the writer who comments wittily, perceptively, controversially, on whatever takes his fancy, from modern playwrights to Lester Piggott, from examples of Soviet persecution to British Airways' in-flight announcements; in fact, *The Times*'s Bernard Levin, who covers a far wider span than this, is



Delicate plants to transplant: columnists Keith Waterhouse, left, and Sir John Junor

the model of a modern columnist. He has an additional advantage to his newspaper: he has been there a long time, more than ten years, long enough for the relationship to seem permanent. No doubt other newspapers have tried to tempt him away but wisely he has refused, for columnists, like peonies, are surprisingly delicate plants and seldom are transplanted with complete success. For many years Sir John Junor's column was a key element in the success of the *Sunday Express*; it may have been 19th hole journalism — an encapsulation of golf club opinion — but it was richly written and eagerly read. Then, sometime after a rift with his new publisher, Lord Stevens, he moved to the *Mail on Sunday*. It seemed like a coup at the time but the column, despite more lavish display, even a smiling picture of himself, is to my mind less effective than it was. In the old days, would he have led his column with an item on Jeffrey Archer "being made to look sour and ill-tempered" on the *Clive Anderson Talks Back* show? Not a line of dialogue was quoted; there was only an assertion that "the audience came close to booing him". But that was the main topic of his column on Sunday.

Keith Waterhouse is another columnist who has moved stables. He was magnificent in the *Daily Mirror*, indeed he was compulsive reading. But he decided he would be happier at the *Daily Mail*. He writes as well as ever, but he left his old groupies behind him and may not quite have replaced them all yet; the old familiar lay-out seems subtly changed. Maybe when he has been there a few years more it will seem as good as ever.

A fine columnist who has never moved away from his own newspaper but has been shunted about inside it rather too much is Geoffrey Smith, who has developed retooling in print into a fine art. Fortunately for his fans, he has settled down in a regular spot in Section 3 of *The Sunday Times* decorated by an engraving of himself apparently disguised as a benign Doctor Johnson. Sunday newspapers are the true haven of the columnist. In the same Section 3 there are at least another half dozen regular columnists — Norman Stone, Atticus, Paul Baker, Bryan Appleyard, Robert Harris and Susan Crossland. *The Observer* boasts Richard Ingrams, Michael Ignatieff and Alan Watkins in its main section, and is particularly strong in its



An opinion on everything: Bernard Levin is a model columnist

Review section, with Katherine Whitehorn and Sue Arnold. The *Sunday Telegraph* carries Christopher Booker, Mary Kenny and Manderake. (I exclude Kenneth Rose as a social diarist.)

What is their value to an editor? First, if they are sufficiently compelling, they undoubtedly help to anchor readers to the newspaper. How often has one heard "I always read the (name your own) (or Blogs) column"? But to achieve that status the column must have been around for some time; readers do not make friends easily. Second, columnists can bring a broader perspective to a newspaper. If it is a Tory supporter, then dissident columnists may widen its appeal. After all, no editor can be entirely immune from the ruses of the opinion polls. Perhaps that is why the *Mail on Sunday* carries Julie Burchill, who seems to enjoy slugging people off, whatever they do. It was blondes on Sunday —

among them such "tragic, doomed blondes" as Mandy Smith and Margaret Thatcher.

Lack of established columnists is another hurdle for new newspapers to surmount. The *Independent on Sunday* brought in the civilised Neil Ascherson from the *Observer*. The *Sunday Correspondent* tried to grow its own, without much success.

In fact, most columnists invent themselves; they cannot be manufactured. Usually they should have knocked about a bit, and have a pretty good opinion of themselves. Modesty is of no value to a columnist. And they should have opinions on everything; they should never ever be short of something to say. Wit is desirable, but not absolutely essential. And they should know how to praise as well as to destroy. Above all they should write superbly well in their own particular tone of voice. If they have all these qualities, they might possibly join the half-dozen or so columnists whom editors are wise to cherish more than rubies.

## Labour's last writes?

THERE was a journalist in Northern Ireland who grew tired of reporting the conflict and decided to set up an agency specialising in good news. Sadder, but wiser, he is now a civil servant.

The story is relevant. Today, Aims of Industry publishes a pamphlet questioning whether the days of labour correspondents are numbered. Most of these belong to the Labour and Industrial Correspondents Group, whose primary job is to report on trade unions. Labour correspondents serve as an indicator to the industrial landscape of Britain. Their glory days coincided exactly with the period of greatest unrest. Michael Ivens, the director of Aims of Industry, suggests a better title for them would have been "strikes correspondents".

Thatcherism, and the advent of greater realism among union members, has led to a decline in bad news and, although there have been memorable exceptions, notably the miners' strike, the labour correspondent's place on page one is no longer assured.

Nick de Jongh, the director of external affairs for the Engineering Employers' Federation, says: "Labour correspondents are not held in universally high regard by industrialists. This may be unfair, but it is not surprising — much that appears under the labour correspondent's name is about problems, conflict and failure." He believes, however, that the correspondents can survive if they report on "people" issues, with an emphasis on the environment, training, recruitment, skills and new work patterns.

John Richards, the former chairman of the group, says disputes are no longer covered in depth, "or specialists from other disciplines, such as health, education, transport, home affairs, and so on, subsume employment issues in their articles".

He claims that although business, media and management journals recognise the upheavals going on in the employment world, these are largely ignored by Fleet Street. "Have the industrial correspondents unwittingly found themselves cast among the 'enemies within' with no place in the Thatcher revolution?" he asks.

TIM JONES

© The author is Employment Correspondent of The Times.

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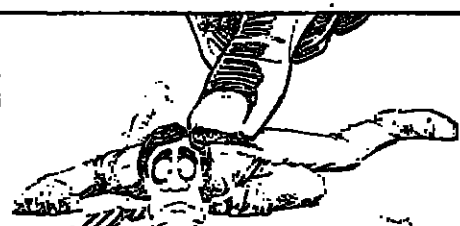
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Further details and application form from: Mrs. Susan Denholm, National Galleries of Scotland, Administration Department, 63, Princes Street, Edinburgh EH2 2ER. The closing date for receipt of application forms is 23 November 1990.



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# Fertile women need not apply

Would you be sterilised to keep a job? In America, "foetal protection policies" demand proof of infertility. Susan Ellicott reports

Virginia Green is angry. Eight years ago, Johnson Controls, America's leading car battery maker, pulled her and several other women off the factory floor because they were able to bear children. The company told them the move was designed to prevent the injury of unborn children of women likely to breathe particles of the lead used in making its products.

Mrs Green was aged 50 and had worked at the company's plant in Bennington, Vermont, for ten years. She had no plans for more children. Kelly, her daughter, was aged ten. But Johnson Controls demoted her and the other women from their relatively high-paying, skilled jobs unless they could provide medical proof of sterility.

Mrs Green asked the company to hold open her job for a few months while she looked into having her tubes tied. The company refused and she was put to work washing the respirators of the men alongside whom she had previously worked.

Today, she recalls how she was easily as capable as the men and was often called in to do overtime if one of them failed to show up at weekends. "I put up one hell of a fight and I still am doing," Mrs Green says. The women's cases are now before the US Supreme Court in Washington as part of a suit brought against Johnson Controls by the United Auto Workers' Union for denying women jobs in high-lead areas at its 15 battery factories unless they have a medical certificate of their infertility.

Johnson's female employees say they are being barred from opportunities open to men even if they have no intention of becoming pregnant. The company says it would be "morally reprehensible" knowingly to expose unborn children to the risks of lead poisoning. Short of monitoring the sex lives of its female employees — a measure, thankfully, dismissed as impractical — the company sees no other way of safeguarding the health of unborn babies whose mothers work in a factory where the level of lead in the air is sometimes so strong, despite \$15 million (£7.5 million) spent on improving safety over the past decade, that employees can taste it. The levels are not dangerous to adults, Johnson says, only to children and fetuses.

Beneath the lofty words, however, the argument boils down to a company's right to protect itself from lawsuits versus a woman's right to work. Should so-called "foetal protection policies" become a part of working life?

Summing up his dissent last year when a Chicago court upheld Johnson Controls' foetal protection policy, Judge Frank Easterbrook, a Reagan appointee generally considered a conservative, said: "No legal or ethical principle compels or allows Johnson to assume that women are less able than men to

make intelligent decisions about the welfare of the next generation." Neither, he added, should Johnson assume that "the interests of the next generation always trump the interests of living women and that the only acceptable level of risk is zero". He estimated that foetal protection policies could affect 20 million jobs, although business groups say the figure is excessive.

At least 15 large industrial and chemical businesses in the United States have such policies, including General Motors, Union Carbide, Gulf Oil and Dow Chemical. All are closely watching the Johnson case. Although only 12 of the 240 workers at the Bennington plant are female, Johnson says it is not biased against women — it just does not hire any who are fertile.

Denise Zutz, the director of Johnson's public relations, says the company's policy was designed by doctors, not lawyers, reflecting "our real motivation" to protect the health of unborn children.

"One of these aspects is liability," she acknowledges, noting the company must protect "the interests of its shareholders". Johnson operated a voluntary scheme for some time under which women planning to conceive transferred temporarily to jobs considered to have a low risk of lead contamination, but it adopted tighter rules after at least six women became pregnant anyway. The company says it needs the policy because most pregnancies are unplanned and many women do not realise they are pregnant until well into their first trimester — too late to save the foetus from harm at the most important stage of development. Critics of foetal protection policies say that companies are reacting to the fear of a lawsuit rather than defending themselves from reality: there has been no suit against a company for damaging a child before birth. Johnson says one of its employees gave birth to a child showing signs of mental retardation, although this was not necessarily linked to lead.

In case Johnson's policy seems far-fetched to non-Americans, Ms Zutz recounts a telephone call she received earlier this month from a nurse in Michigan who contracted hepatitis while working and pregnant. The woman miscarried but was barred from suing the hospital by a clause in her contract. The dead child, however, brought a case and won \$860,000 (£430,000) in compensation — left to its mother as next of kin. Michigan's state court upheld the decision.

"There is no practical way under the law today to prohibit either the mother or the child from suing the employer," Ms Zutz says. Making staff sign a waiver apparently means almost nothing.

Even though Johnson and some other companies say they do not encourage sterilisation, some women, such as Betty Riggs, consider they have little choice. Mrs



Sitting it out: Virginia Green, who was asked to prove her sterility, and union representative Joanne Leard

Riggs underwent sterilisation at the age of 26 to keep a former job at the lead-based pigments department of a factory run by American Cyanamid. She regrets her operation, but was trying to support elderly parents and a young son when her employer changed its hiring requirements in the late Seventies.

Although Johnson compensated Mrs Green for a drop in pay when her job was changed, she says she lost scope for promotion and overtime by having to move. Her daughter, now aged 18, cannot work at Johnson under the present hiring policies. "There is something fishy in the woodpile," says Joanne Leard, a union health and safety representative at Johnson's plant in Bennington. "If they were as concerned as they say they are, then they should be as concerned for the men."

Johnson says it has seen no studies linking foetal damage to a man's exposure to lead. Women say that research has concentrated too much on the health effects of industrial jobs on their own sex.

In Bennington, a small town of 16,000 people, the case boils down to money. Johnson, which pays up to \$15 an hour for heavy jobs, provides some of the most lucrative work in a rural area where salaries are relatively low.

"Who wants to work in McDonald's for peanuts?" Mrs Leard asks. "That's the line if you just want to work while your kids are at school, but it's really no good if you want to pay the bills." The Supreme Court is expected to rule on the women's case next year.

## BALANCING THE RISKS IN BRITAIN

THE HEALTH and safety of women employees in Britain can fall legally outside the sex discrimination laws. Employers can refuse to allow a woman to do a job if they consider it "necessary" in order to comply with the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act. Other restrictions on women — including working with some dangerous substances, working at night and down mines — were removed by last year's Employment Act.

However, many people believe the legislation is a form of discrimination. Margaret Prosser, the national women's secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, points out that if lead is in the atmosphere, for example, it is hazardous to all workers, not only to women. She is also opposed to an EC directive which proposes that pregnant women should not be allowed to work at night. "That discussion should be about what effect night work has on all workers."

Pauline Matthews, the principal legal officer of the Equal Opportunities Commission, believes that the 1989 Employment Act "was not wholly good news... What the legislation doesn't look at is individual women and whether they intend to have children or not. We have always argued on what individual women want to do. The risk to the foetus is different from the risk to women's child-bearing capacity, which is much more serious."

The 1980 Control of Lead at Work Regulations

prohibit women workers from participating in particular processes and lay down the levels of lead to which they can be safely exposed — about half those allowed for men. Pregnant women who have been with a company for two years are entitled to ask for alternative employment if their job carries risks for their baby. The Maternity Alliance, a charity aimed at improving "the rights and services for mothers, fathers and babies", would like to see the time limit removed.

Dr Tony Fletcher, a lecturer in occupational epidemiology at Birmingham university, believes that the rules for women are "unevenly applied. Some women in low-paid work are excluded from jobs on the ground of risks to the foetus, while in other circumstances that argument is not used because the employers don't believe they can get men to do the work."

BRONWEN BERNARD, the health and safety officer for the National Union of Public Employees, says that offering alternative work is not always effective. She has come across incidents of pregnant hospital nurses preferring to risk the potential hazards of anaesthetic gases in operating theatres than what they consider to be the greater danger of heavy lifting on wards.

SALLY BROMPTON

# Hero with a heart of ice

Sir Vivian Fuchs did not set out to be a famous explorer. But his search for scientific truth made him one anyway

Sir Vivian Fuchs, the scientist and Antarctic explorer, shuns any notion of himself as heroic adventurer, and has preferred not to seek firsts which smack of the Guinness Book of Records. "Not that I criticise that," he says, with a sharp look from beneath furrowed bushy eyebrows. "I certainly don't deny enjoying the adventure."

At the age of 82 he has produced *A Time to Speak*, his autobiography, looking back on a life in which science has always taken first place, even on the great crossing of the Antarctic continent which he led and which, incidentally, was a first. "I've never wanted to imitate anybody. I have taken advice, but science has always been the objective."

Few heroic explorers, for example, would declare a strong interest in the pleistocene climatic variations and their effect upon the land and lacustrine fauna of the Rift Valley, which led Sir Vivian back to Africa on one of four expeditions as a Cambridge undergraduate and geology graduate.

The second world war effectively divided the heat from the cold in his career. In 1947 he became field commander of the Antarctic bases operated by the Falkland Islands Dependencies, forerunner of the British Antarctic Survey. After years of quiet research and scientific exploration he was appointed leader of the 1955-58 Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, and the role of anonymous boffin ended.

As the tracked vehicles ground their way across the frozen continent from one direction a second team, led by Sir Edmund Hillary, set out on a couple of Ferguson farm tractors from Scott Base, more than 2,000 miles away on the opposite coast.

Having completed his task of setting up a supply depot 400 miles from the South Pole, Sir Edmund decided to make a dash to the Pole. "For the hell of it". In the eyes of the world the expedition became a race, despite the fact

that one "contender" was stopping at regular intervals and detonating seismic charges to determine the thickness of the ice, and carrying out a host of scientific experiments which eventually resulted in reports covering the region's geology, tides, meteorology and marine biology.

As it was, Sir Edmund's dash for the Pole meant he arrived there four days ahead of Sir Vivian. "I have never blamed him for what he did," Sir Vivian says. "It would have been like turning back from the south summit of Everest. We met up perfectly friendly; he shared my Snowcat on the journey back. Anyway, I'm not a chap who tends to have rows."

After his return to civilisation, a knighthood and all the accolades, Sir Vivian went back to surveying a continent that was beginning to attract strong political interest and acquire ecological importance. "It is a very specialised area and what can and cannot be done there needs to be understood very clearly. The Antarctic is the clean recipient of everything that comes out of the atmosphere, from volcanic dust to whatever the human race puts up."

Those who care for the region's future would prefer to see it kept in its pristine state, but Sir Vivian fears the more likely outcome will be politicians yielding to international commercial pressure. For that reason he hopes that the Antarctic Treaty, imminently due for renewal, will never be relegated "to the babel of the United Nations".

"The region needs to be kept in the hands of the treaty nations, which now number 34 or 35. Most countries feel that if there is something to be had from Antarctica they want a stake in it, but let them sign on the dotted line, undertaking that they will do no harm."

RONALD FAUX

• A Time to Speak is published tomorrow by Anthony Nelson (£16.95).

STEPHEN MARKESON



Sir Vivian: "Science has always been the objective"

## THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

"At a time when world leaders are threatening war crimes trials against the Iraqis for their rape of Kuwait, it is surely appropriate that thought should be given to bringing the Khmer Rouge leadership to belated justice to answer for their crimes against humanity."

Peter Carey  
in the TLS this Friday

Plus: Hilary Spurling's Life of Paul Scott

## & BRIEFLY

### Ironing is made easy

FOR those who do not find ironing therapeutic, and who would like to cut their ironing time in half, a Cornish company has produced the Gemini Clothescare system. A heating element in the ironing board, an all-British design, contains a "docking system" for a cordless iron. Only when the iron is pressed over the board does the system come into effect; otherwise the board remains cool. Gemini claims its system halves ironing time and therefore the amount of electricity used. It costs £139.95 from stockists as diverse as Argos and Harrods, or by direct mail. For an order form contact Gemini Customer Service at Trelawney

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### Doggerel day

Following in the footsteps of Barbara Bush's prolific pet dog, Millie, who recently published her memoirs, is Abigail, the more cavalier and less prosaic spaniel belonging to the former D'Oyley Carte singer Maureen Melvin. Abigail, who was a guest on Derek Jameson's radio show this week, will be signing — or possibly stamping — copies of her poetry book *Paws for Thought* (Chapman, £4.95) at Harrods on Saturday. Perhaps the publishers' intentions in offering this work can be divined in Abigail's seasonal warning: "You're going to buy a Christmas dog? Please pause before you do. For Christmas is a troubled time/For dogs both old and new..."

### Deathly disc

Those of unsound mind may appreciate the latest sound-effect CD from BBC records, in time to accompany Halloween festivities comes *The Essential Death and Horror Compact Disc* (£11.99 from most record shops), containing such sounds as "execution and torture, gravedigging, stake driven through heart, nails hammered into flesh and tongue pulled out". Perhaps BBC records should make contact with the makers of Dos Equis beer, who are "delighted to bring a glimpse of Mexican culture to the UK" by inviting us to celebrate the ancient Mexican Day of the Dead on Friday. The company is supplying bars and restaurants in central London with black candles. Whether this reaches the parts Humecken does not remain to be seen.

VICTORIA MCKEE

## THE TIMES

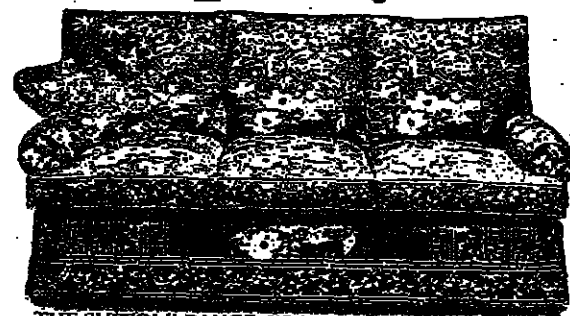
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## ARTS

## Triumph of Irishness

THE Irish novelist and poet Dermot Bolger has won the Samuel Beckett Award 1989 for the best first stage play performed in 1989. His play, *The Lament for Arthur Cleary* — a somewhat wry Irish look at Irishness — was first seen at the Dublin Theatre Festival. It was staged earlier this month at the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith. The Beckett Award for the best first television play transmitted in 1989 is jointly shared by Bryan Elsey for *Govan Ghast Story* (BBC 1) and Jane Rogers for *Dawn and the Cadillacs* (Channel 4). Faber and Faber, Channel Four and the Royal Court Theatre sponsor the awards: the winners receive £1,000 each.

## Platform soul

BRITISH Rail continues its noble attempts to inject a little improving culture into the rush-hour scene. A permanent display of original prints by well-known Scottish artists has now appeared on the platforms of Edinburgh's Haymarket Station. It is a joint venture between ScotRail and the National Galleries of Scotland; the aim is to encourage passengers to make the 20-minute walk to the Gallery of Modern Art. Cynics, however, wonder whether the prints will survive long into the football season.

## Good connection

MOST unlikely sponsorship of the year: the Almeida Theatre, the tiny Islington venue best-known for its avant-garde happenings, has attracted sponsorship from AT&T, the American telecommunications giant. AT&T is probably the largest corporate contributor to theatre in the United States, but its partnership with the Almeida will be its first British venture. It will enable the Almeida to mount a spring season that includes Diana Rigg in Dryden's *All for Love*.

## Last chance

AFTER Keith Michell, Derek Jacobi and, on screen, Steve Martin, it has been the turn of Edward Petherbridge to bring his subtle interpretation to the role of Cyrano de Bergerac. Tickets for the final performances — at the Greenwich Theatre (081-858 7755) until Saturday — are hard to come by, but Petherbridge's portrayal of heroic self-denial makes the effort worthwhile.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

# An elusive shutterfly

David Bailey, Sixties archetype of the photographer as celebrity, tells Lauris Morgan-Griffiths about his continuing aspirations as a film maker and painter

David Bailey hates being interviewed because he never recognises himself in print. "Maybe I'm not what I think I am, and journalists see who I am, and write about the person I am but I don't like it." Perfectly understandable if you are not David Bailey, unreasonable if you are. He transmits certain signals and then, just in case they are taken too seriously, he deflects them: he evokes a semi-literate East Ham lad, but then is quick to reveal his intellectual side, spicing his conversation with references to Proust, Chekhov and Dr Johnson.

He is bear-like now with his rounded waist and grizzled growth around the chin. Initially he seems gruff, maybe even slightly nervous, but from long experience he knows how to be charming, and is quick to find humour. An infectious laugh punctuates many of his statements, particularly when he feels he could be accused of pretension or of taking himself too seriously. His studio, bare except for a few of his own paintings and a sofa and chairs, is in a normally quiet mews. But the road outside is being ravaged by a mechanical digger, and the parrot in the corner is quiet except for an occasional telephone impersonation.

Legend surrounds the man: of histrionics during his fashion shoots, for instance. But with rapt innocence he tries to squash them. "I used to think fashion was a bit silly. I wouldn't think it was worth making someone cry over a frock." However, a French company recently complained that Bailey could not have been interested in their product because he had not screamed or sacked anyone. Bailey chuckles at that memory. But these stories, echoing into the 1990s, originated somewhere.

Fashion photography gave Bailey the chance to make his mark and produce memorable images. He was always more "interested in what was in the fashion" and focused on character models such as Anjelica Huston, Penelope Tree and Mariella Berenson. Now he feels there is no longer the same scope. He is scathing about magazines that seem to want only throwaway images. So photographers are picked up, taken to the bosom of fashion editors, and summarily dropped. "The Warhol maxim will have to be rewritten as 'famous for 15 seconds'." He thinks that serious photographers today aim their work at gallery walls, instead.

Commercials are his business today. They make money, if not household names. Bailey has directed hundreds of commercials over the past two decades, but he is known mainly for the Greenpeace ad — a sophisticated fashion scene suddenly thrown into bloody mayhem — and the lovelorn Volkswagen girl. Just as he dismissed fashion as the prime objective because "I always felt I was taking portraits", so he dismisses commercials.

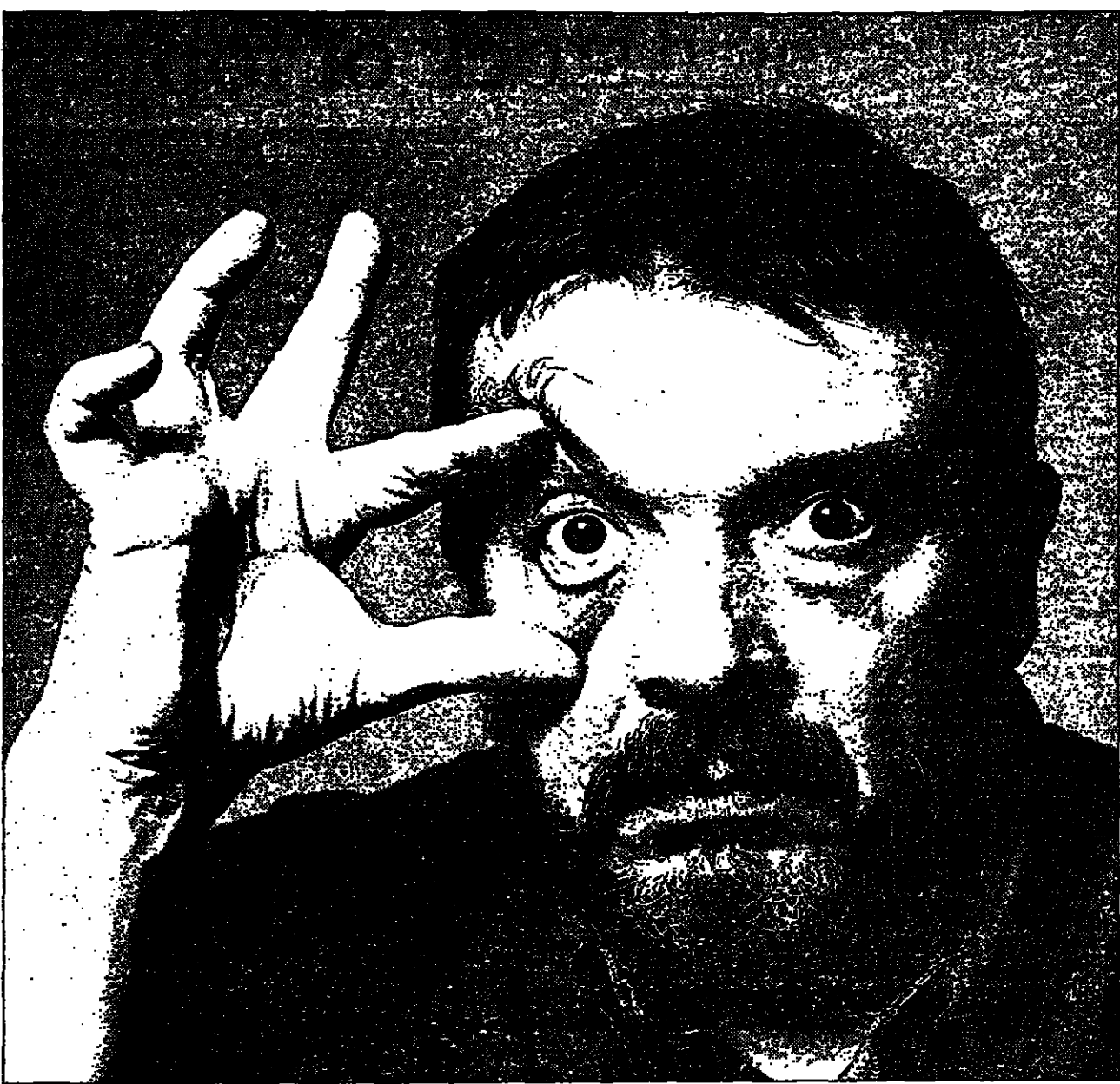
On the other hand, he loves film — though, here again, some intellectual ambivalence can be detected. He says his favourite films are *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Bambi* — the first film he ever saw. Yet his favourite directors are Coppola, Scorsese, Truffaut and Bertolucci, although the American director he relates most to is David Lynch because of his "European view of America". He regrets he has not yet made a feature film, and is now pressing hard to make his first. He has two projects, one of which he hopes will make it to the screen next year.

Bailey clearly enjoys making films and working with a team. Surprisingly, he finds "stills photography much more frustrating and much more difficult. You can cheat on painting and live action but on a still it's there, and once you've done it you just have to live with it. On a film there are 24 frames per second. Jean-Luc Godard said 'movies are 23 times easier than stills'."

But Bailey has not by any means left photography behind. His latest exhibition lays out his current creative thinking. There are portraits of his wife, Catherine Dyer, and mixed-media collages combining photography (playful self-portraits, the Mona Lisa, the natural world and his wife) and painting (photographs distorted by paint, and fresh images of colourful, primitive figures).

And there is one image that repeats itself: a 1911 photograph of a woman in Victorian dress holding a camera. Bailey acquired it in a job lot with a photograph he had brought from Sotheby's. Something about her has caught his imagination and he has invented a mythic life. The collages follow Bailey's eccentric fantasy of her photographing the last tattooed man in Honolulu and dying in childbirth.

He is not against manipulating photographs. He discovered the effect when working with easily scratchable, Polaroid film. He liked the random effect, so



Bailey by Bailey: a recent self-portrait, included in the photographer's latest exhibition

experimented by putting negatives in with salt and water and it ended up Miró-esque. Then he added some paint effects. "I don't think it's important. It's like a kind of sophisticated primitive in a way. I don't claim it to be great art."

Then Bailey's worm turns. He wants to make films, but is it art? He professes not to care if people like his personal photographs or paintings, but he does care about art. He launches into a dissertation about art and non-art and the artistic merits of film against painting and photography. Film "doesn't have the same artistic thing as a painting or a photograph. You can't hang a movie on the wall, you can't keep looking at a movie. I guess a painting or photograph lets your imagination run wild, whereas a film explains everything for you. That's why I think photography and painting, and music maybe, are more artistic than writing or film making."

Known for his liaisons with beautiful women as much as his photography back in the 1960s, he now feels that a new romantic phase has heralded an upsurge of creative energy and experimentation. His photographs of his wife Catherine Dyer show a changed attitude to women. "Women change the way you think. I photograph her the whole time without make-up. I think she is the most beautiful woman I've been with, but I don't try to make her look beautiful." Now he takes the same approach to photographing women as he would to men: showing them as they really are. However, he thinks Christine Keeler was probably a little shocked by the results.

Picasso was probably the single greatest creative influence on Bailey: he says that seeing a Picasso painting, at the age of 16, changed his life. He named his daughter Paloma "as a sign of respect", and he would like to make a film of Picasso with

Jack Nicholson. "Nobody can actually be Picasso, but Brando could have done it and I think Jack can. It would be like Picasso painting Gertrude Stein, who complained that 'I don't look like this'. Picasso said: 'you will'."

Jack Nicholson is one of his greatest friends. Bailey calls the two of them the "new old: the old that are still young". He professes never to want to give up on life; he would like to reach his creative maturity, and he thinks Picasso's best work was in his last ten years. "I think when I'm 90 I'll just be getting smart enough to do something else. I'd like to have been a great gardener, a great painter, a great photographer and a great film maker". Only time — four decades — will tell.

David Bailey is at Hamilton's, 13 Curlew Place, London W1, from Monday November 5 to November 30.

## POPULAR MUSIC

## To the heart

Singer Dionne Warwick, in London for two Cole Porter concerts, talks to Tony Patrick

Dionne Warwick and Cole Porter: two class acts, if not two immediately associated in the public mind. Warwick is a singer completing her third decade at or near the top of her profession; Porter was one of popular music's most gifted songwriters, whose centenary year is about to begin. By some remarkable coincidence, she has recorded an album of his songs, and is in London for two concerts with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to promote same.

Warwick is identified, indelibly, with the records she made between 1962 and 1969 with the writing duo Burt Bacharach and Hal David. Such pop classics as "Anyone who had a Heart", "Don't make me over", "Walk on By" and "A House is Not a Home" are seen by many as having held aloft the torch of craftsmanship in song at a time when the world was otherwise in thrall to guitar-bass-drums-and-long-hair.

"Porter was not my idea," she said this week. "Clive Davis [the head of her record company] surprised me with it. He took time to convince me that it was a logical next step at this stage, away from contemporary material."

Although she had not previously recorded any Porter songs, the project developed — and it took two years altogether — I discovered that in a way I had all along been singing material which was preparing me for it. Musically, the intervals and phrasing of what I was doing right at the beginning, with Bacharach, were similar.

Lyrical, although Porter had much greater emphasis on rhyme and much of his work is tongue-in-cheek, it is totally geared to the heart, which is as good a description of Hal David's lyrics as you could want.

Warwick, whose commitment to fund-raising and promotional work for sickle-cell anaemia, research and AIDS-related charities is well documented, is a matter-of-fact, clear-eyed optimist by nature, which may account for some of the empathy she displays with Porter's songs. Not above sentimentality on occasion, his work often has an astringency and directness about it which are also echoed in Bacharach and David.

Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan recorded Porter collections which have almost sacred status: was Warwick intimidated by these and other previous illustrious interpreters? "I can honestly say I was not, because I made no attempt to imitate or reproduce what somebody else had done. That would have been suicidal. I did it the best way I could, and then sent copies to some of the people whose interpretations are well known and whose opinions I respect. I am very glad to say that they responded favourably." Proof of this, in the form of comments by Frank Sinatra and Lena Horne, can be found in the liner notes.

At the Albert Hall with the singer and the orchestra will be her own musicians: conductor Joe Kleese, keyboards player Rob Sherrock, drummer Dennis Allen, guitarist Neil Anzalone, and bass-



Dionne Warwick: her matter-of-fact optimism suits Porter

player Danny De Moraes, with her cousins Myrna Smith and Felicia Moss providing back-up vocals. It sounds as though she must tour constantly to keep them in business. "After 28 years, honey, I figure I have toured. I have done my share. But we do go out 20 or 25 weeks a year."

What next? "I still want the full set: Grammy [she already has more than one], Oscar and Tony, before I quit." Her only film role, in *Renato*, with Burt Reynolds and Liza Minnelli, was on British television last week: "Blink and you missed me, right? I want more."

What prospect is there of her qualifying for a Tony? "We are in discussion with the Nederlander group about a Broadway show. It was suggested by a young man from Los Angeles, Stephen Simon, a dancer/choreographer now turned director. He has something innovative and exciting in mind: not a narrative or book show, but something I think entirely new. They are ready to go with it right now, but I cannot just put the rest of my life on hold."

Dionne Warwick appears with the Royal Philharmonic at the Albert Hall, London SW7 (071-589 8212) tonight and tomorrow.

## WHITBREAD BOOK OF THE YEAR

## Real life, real literature?

Less than a week to go before the Whitbread Book of the Year awards: the literary world holds its breath, even if nobody else does. Tomorrow sees the formal announcement of the biography short-list. The fuss over whether or not A.S. Byatt will walk off with the fiction prize, and another down-payment on a swimming pool, obscures the fact that the Whitbread also covers biography, children's fiction, first novels and poetry.

The biography shortlist is *The King's Cardinal: The Rise and Fall of Thomas Wolsey* by Peter Gwynn (Barrie & Jenkins); *Paul Scott: A Life* by Hilary Spurling (Hutchinson); *A.A. Milne: His Life by Ann Thwaite* (Faber); and *Tom Driberg: His Life and Indiscretions* by Francis Wheen (Chatto). There is no Peter Ackroyd. "I've never seen a shortlist that I didn't think was odd," says Philip Howard, the literary editor of *The Times*. "This one is very odd. Apart from Ackroyd's *Dickens*, Howard offers alternatives including Ronald Hayman's study of Proust, Noël Annan's memoir, *Our Age*, and Philip Ziegler's life of Edward VIII.

That alternative list alone shows the depth of quality in the biography market. Some would argue that biographies are overtaking novels as the real literature of the age. A glance through past Whitbread winners provides evidence. Of the fiction and biography winners in 1988, for instance, which is likely to be the more enduring work: *The Satanic Verses* or A.N. Wilson's life of Tolstoy? And last year: Richard Holmes's *Coleridge: Early Visions* versus *The Chrysalis Wedding* by Lindsay Clarke?

## Clive Davis on the debate over novels versus biographies

A similar debate has been going on in the United States. Tom Wolfe waded in last year with an essay which argued that "serious" American fiction had grown so arid and inward-looking that the real work was being done by non-fiction writers, journalists and "genre" authors such as John Le Carré and Joseph Wambaugh. "Any literary person who is willing to look back over the American literary terrain of the past 25 years — look back candidly, in the solitude of the study — will admit that in at least four years out of five, the best non-fiction books have been better literature than the most highly praised books of fiction."

Many would agree on the general point. Paul Fussell, who has written on figures as diverse as George Orwell and Samuel Johnson, has a low opinion of the recent Booker list. "They were all very respectable but dull. I didn't feel compelled to read a single one. There's a shortage of novelists who can work on a large canvas. The large novels we do get are the 900-page blockbusters, written by Danielle Steele for typists."

As if to press home Wolfe's point, the most eagerly-awaited blockbuster of the year in the US was not a novel, but a biography: *The Years of Lyndon Johnson*. The author, Robert Caro, is a former investigative reporter. He started on the project 15 years ago; the latest instalment, *Means of Ascent*, is the second of four

volumes. Caro estimates that it will take ten years to finish. Most critics agree that he has set new standards in political biography.

His portrait of LBJ has grown into a portrait of 20th-century America. Written in majestic prose, the two volumes are as hypnotic as an epic novel. During the long haul, Caro intriguingly admits to a new-found passion for the Victorian ambience of the Palliser novels. He started with *The Prime Minister*, two years ago: "It's the best book about personalities in politics that I've ever read. I'd like to be able to capture the mood and atmosphere of political life as Trollope did."

Another American observer, Samuel Hynes — author of the recently-published cultural overview, *A War Imagined* — agrees that political biography and memoirs could well be the most compelling form of modern literature. "It isn't non-fiction or biography in general that's catching the attention of readers. I think it's the revelations of politicians' lives. Lyndon Johnson's world has more incident and plotting in it than all the novels on the Booker short-list put together. And where else would you find a fictional story as relentlessly raunchy as Tom Driberg's? Or as comic as Tony Benn's?"

If, like Paul Fussell, you are a Professor of English, this might seem a depressing state of affairs. Fussell thinks not: "I regard as literature any work that will last the test of time. The life of Johnson is literature, so are Edmund Burke's speeches. Literature does not have to be fiction."

The Whitbread Book of the Year award winners will be announced on Tuesday.

## TELEVISION

## Chilled and charmed by turns

TWO documentaries last night came to the conclusion, over their closing titles, that American justice works in mysterious ways. For *Critical Eye* (Channel 4), *Dark Passage* was a terrifying confession to camera by Cesar J. Martinez of his work as a killer and torturer for the death squads of El Salvador, where 35,000 civilians have met with sudden demise in the past few years.

Martinez also related in detail the involvement of American advisers in the killings, charges that were explored by Allan Frankovich's film and appeared far from unlikely. Martinez is now being arrested in the United States on immigration charges and is threatened with return to El Salvador, where he may well be killed.

On ITV, Nixon: The Fall

ended the best documentary series of the year with an equally chilling credit-title. It said that, of all the Watergate villains, Nixon alone got off with an absolute pardon. The excellence of this Thames co-production has been in telling the Nixon story as a post-war history of the United States itself. Far from the overblown journalistic romanticism of *All the President's Men*, this was a cooler look at Watergate as the inevitable conclusion to his career, finding Nixon, even at the last, unable to admit that he made any mistake save that of being found out.

All the old witnesses came back into the dock, most of them vastly richer and sleeker for their post-prison years on the American lecture circuit, and smug about the still greater corruption of Iran.

John Dean, the original squealer, noted that Nixon was not the inventor of political sin in the White House. He was, however, the first president to go on television and announce that he was not a crook.

This is proving a splendid week for fancies and foodies. On Saturday there was Tom Vernon puffing his way around Argentina on a bicycle. Sunday brought the haunted-house menus at The Green Man, and on Monday, Jonathan Meades started *Abroad in Britain*, yet another of those BBC 2 series in which eccentric presenters set off in search of proof that there are others still more quaintly dotty than themselves. The usual casting for this role is either a post-modernist writer or the aristocratic scion of some ancient and crumbling stately home,

but in Meades there is something new.

Meades potted around the frontier country of the Shropshire border, looking at pre-war shanty towns which have become architectural monuments to chaotic improvisation. His thesis, delivered with the nostalgic affection of a youthful and portly John Betjeman, was that with the passing of Aertex shirts and Elsan lavatories something has gone out of the English way of life.

David Turnbull, Meades's director, has an equally sharp eye for the truly eccentric: at one point his presenter was rubbing on about social trends while two people stood silent and unexplained in the background, holding a large stuffed fish in a glass case.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

## 2 CR5 Lithium Camera Batteries RECALL

Regrettably it has been discovered that a limited number of Maxell's 2CR5 lithium batteries produced before December 1989 have caused minor overheating in the cameras they have been placed in.

Maxell would like to apologize for this unfortunate situation and assure all their customers the problem has been rectified for the future.

The batteries concerned have two product numbers, either starting with an 'S' or 'T'. If you have any in your possession, please call our Hotline on 081-207 1997 during normal working hours from Monday to Friday, when you will receive information on how to obtain your free replacement battery.

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## Sir Michael Tippett's THE MASK OF TIME

is performed by the BBC Symphony Orchestra, conductor Andrew Davis, with the BBC Singers and BBC Symphony Chorus, in the Royal Festival Hall, Saturday 3 November, at 7.30pm.

Soloists: Faye Robinson, Felicity Palmer, Robert Tear, John Cheek. Pre-concert talk 6.15pm with Sir Michael Tippett.

Phone 071-928 8800 for tickets (£3.50-£16.00) 071-927 4714 for further information.

BBC



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## TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

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## BBC 1

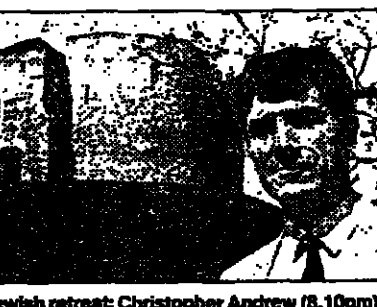
- 6.00 **Celebs**  
6.30 **News** with Nicholas  
Witchell and Laura  
Meyer  
6.50 **Daytime** UK presented by Alan  
Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers in  
Birmingham and Adrian Mills in  
Manchester  
9.00 **News**, regional news and weather  
9.05 **Brainwaves**, Quiz game 9.25 **Die**  
of the Day. Halloween food ideas  
from Rosemary Moon 9.30 **People**  
Today. With the television doctor  
10.05 **Children's BBC**, presented by  
Simon Parkin, begins with Playdays  
10.25 **The Family Nook**, Cateon (r)  
10.35 **People Today**, Tim Grundy  
invites viewers to challenge programme  
makers  
11.00 **News**, regional news and weather  
11.05 **Kilroy**, A discussion on  
Halloween - Innocent fun or sinister  
threat? 11.45 **Before Noon**, Adrian Mills  
and Rinko Phillips. Children and  
while Alan Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers  
reveal the winner of today's  
**Brainwaves** quiz question  
12.00 **News**, regional news and weather  
12.05 **After Noon**, Cateon (r)  
Wendy Gibson, in Newcastle,  
presents a selection of viewers' happy  
memories 12.20 **Scene Today**, Live  
entertainment quiz by Judi Spiers  
and Alan Titchmarsh 12.55 **Regional**  
news and weather  
1.00 **One O'Clock** News with Michael  
Buerk. Weather

## BBC 2

- 6.00 **News** with sign language  
interpretation  
8.15 **Westminster**, A review of  
yesterday's news and events from both  
houses  
9.00 **Daytime** on Two France and the  
French 9.15 **The pros and cons of early**  
retirement 9.45 **A science drama**  
10.00 **For the young** 10.15 **The world of**  
the mini-beasts 10.40 **Transport** in  
towns and cities 11.00 **Learning to read**  
series 11.15 **Language and literacy** in  
used 11.35 **Science drama** for five and  
six-year-olds 12.10 **Earth's closest**  
star 12.30 **Money and values** 12.55  
**Computers in society** 1.20 **The**  
**Adventures of Spot**, cartoon 1.25  
**What's inside?** 1.40 **Earth's water**  
supply  
2.00 **News** and weather followed by You  
and Me (r) 2.15 **In the Garden**, For  
November Dennis Cornish discusses  
chrysanthemums, demonstrating the  
uses with which they grow and the  
rewards they bring 2.35 **Country File**.  
As the season ends, a discussion  
on fox hunting (r)  
3.00 **News** and weather followed by Wild  
World: Horses Without Man. Free from  
the confining restraints of humans,  
the horse soon reverts to the ways of the  
wild. Narrated by Gary Watson (r)  
3.50 **News**, regional news and weather  
4.00 **Call My Bluff**, Robert Robinson  
the referee in the popular game of verbal  
trickery. In this further gem from the  
archives, the team captains, Frank Muir  
and the late Arthur Marshall, are  
joined by Sue Cook, Magnus  
Magnusson, Virginia McKenna and  
Dennis Quilligan  
4.30 **Fighting Talk**, David Divine, the  
former director of social services in the  
London borough of Brent, discusses  
with Anne Kellner the view that social  
workers are scapegoats for society's  
failures to care

- 1.30 **Neighbours**, Australian soap.  
(Ceebox) 1.50 **Four Squares**, John Sachs  
hosts the knockout quiz 2.15 **Knots**  
Landing. Drama and intrigue with the  
slightly poorer relations of the oil-rich  
in Dallas  
2.45 **CrimeTime**, David Jacobs meets one  
of last year's winners of the Help the  
Aged awards 3.45 **Cartoon**  
3.50 **Two by Two**, Nature series  
presented by Jenny Powell and Derek  
Griffiths 4.05 **Quick, Quick Show**,  
With Keith Harris and Onnie, 4.25  
**Fantastic Max**, Cartoon about a  
bionic baby 4.35 **Hartbeat**, Tony Hart  
and Margot Wilson continue the  
invisibles art series, (Ceebox)  
5.00 **Newsround** 5.10 **Splash Grove**,  
Episode five of the teenage drama set  
on Tyneside, (Ceebox)  
5.35 **Neighbours** (r), (Ceebox), Northern  
Island. Sportsweek 5.40 **Wide World**  
6.00 **Six O'Clock** News with Peter  
Sissons and Moira Stuart. Weather  
6.30 **Regional News** Magazines.  
Northern Ireland. Neighbours  
7.00 **News** with Peter Sissons  
Brookfield and David Hasselhoff and  
best-selling writer Colleen  
McCullough  
7.35 **Douglas Howard**, MD: She Ain't  
Heavy, She's My Cousin. Enjoyable  
American comedy drama about a  
teenage doctor, (Ceebox)  
8.00 **The Trials of Life: Finding the Way**,  
Helped by super photography, the  
quality wildlife series continues with  
David Attenborough explaining how  
animals find their way around the  
globe with such extraordinary accuracy.

- In the middle of the Sahara Desert  
an ant undertakes a journey, using the  
sun as a compass to find its way to a  
featureless environment. And in the  
Bahamas in autumn, thousands of  
lovers leave their sandbank homes  
and head for deeper water. What  
guides animals on such expeditions?  
(Ceebox)  
8.50 **Points of View** presented by Anne  
Robinson  
9.00 **Nine O'Clock** News with Michael  
Buerk. Regional news and weather  
9.30 **Carned Carnot**, Another sideways  
look at life from the Brummie comedian.  
(Ceebox)  
10.00 **Sportsweek**, Steve Rider introduces  
a double bill of boxing and athletics.  
Liverpool's Paul Hodgkinson takes on  
Frankfurt's Guy Beahugh in defence of  
his European featherweight crown at  
Wembley. Harry Carpenter  
commentates. Journalist Thompson  
Steve Backley talks about his targets  
for the coming season  
11.10 **Film: The Honourable Consul** (1983).  
One of Michael Caine's better  
performances, Caine as a doctor in a  
small Argentine town becomes  
involved with guerrillas who plan to  
challenge the brutal military regime  
by kidnapping a visiting diplomat. Also  
stare Richard Gere and Bob Hoskins.  
Directed by John Mackenzie. (Ceebox)  
12.50am **Weather**

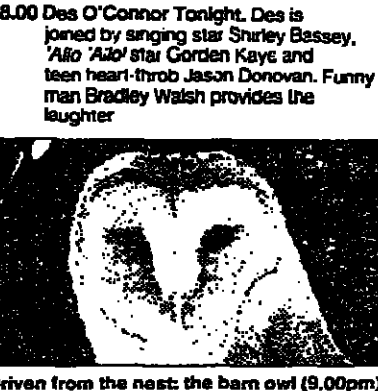


Jewish retreat: Christopher Andrew (8.10pm)

- Jews retreated to the castle and  
chase mass suicide rather than be  
butchered by the mob  
9.00 **M.A.S.H.**, More bandages and black  
humour from the medics of the 407th  
th  
9.25 **Blood Rights**, Episode two of the  
punchy three-part thriller by Mike  
Phillips. Brian Bove, as journalist  
turned private eye Sammy Dean, gets  
himself into dangerous territory as  
he continues his investigations into the  
Tory MP's missing daughter (Hermione  
Norris). Having been sacked from  
the case by her parents, he  
tries to shock them with the news that  
she was involved with drugs. (Ceebox)  
10.20 **Fifth Column**, Dr Akbar Ahmed, a  
sociologist and visiting professor in  
Pakistan studies at Cambridge  
University, believes that the western  
view of Muslims as aggressive and  
fanatical is unhelpful and thoughtless.  
He is pessimistic about the  
prospects for future harmony unless  
attitudes change  
10.30 **Newsnight** presented by Peter  
Snow  
11.15 **The Late Show**, Arts and media  
magazine 11.55 **Weather**  
12.00 **Fighting Talk**, See 4.30. Ends at  
12.55am

## ITV LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am**  
9.25 **Keynotes**, Music quiz hosted by  
Aster Dore 9.55 **Thames News** and  
weather  
10.00 **The Time ... The Place ... Mike**  
Scott meets people who have spent  
years trying to trace a missing  
relative or friend  
10.40 **This Morning**, Magazine series  
12.05 **Alerts**, For the very young 12.25  
**Home And Away** 12.55 **Thames News**  
and weather  
1.00 **News at One** with John Suchet.  
Weather  
1.20 **The Body Works**, Presenters Caron  
Keating and Neil Buchanan discuss  
health and beauty. They are joined  
by special guest Kate Boyle, who  
reveals her beauty tips  
1.50 **A Country Practice** 2.20 **Take the**  
**High Road**  
2.50 **Talkabout**, Game show 3.15 **News**  
3.20 **Thames News** and weather  
3.25 **The Young Doctors**, Australian  
medical drama  
3.55 **Nellie the Elephant**, Animated film  
with the friendly elephant. With the  
voices of Julie and Tony Robinson  
4.00 **Hot Dog** 4.15 **Mike and Angelo** (r)  
4.40 **Roll's Cartoon Club**  
5.10 **Blockbusters**  
5.40 **News** with Sue Carpenter. Weather  
5.55 **Thames Help** with the third in the  
week's series on the work of the hospice  
movement  
6.00 **Home and Away** (r)  
6.30 **Thames News** and weather  
7.00 **This Is Your Life**, Michael Aspel and  
his big red book spring a surprise on  
countrywide which have discovered  
7.30 **Coronation Street**, Catch up with  
the regulars at the Rovers (Oracle)



Driven from the nest: the barn owl (9.00pm)

- 9.00 **Survival Special**,  
CH-Choice: Spectacular  
photography from one of our best  
wildlife cameramen, Hugh Miles,  
accompanies a pilot for a more  
sympathetic understanding of  
Britain's birds of prey. Miles makes a  
strong case, although watching a  
golden eagle swoop down and crush a  
poor mountain hare some might feel  
4.00 **Hot Dog** 4.15 **Mike and Angelo** (r)  
4.40 **Roll's Cartoon Club**  
5.10 **Blockbusters**  
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7.30 **Coronation Street**, Catch up with  
the regulars at the Rovers (Oracle)

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 **The Art of Landscape**, Beautiful  
natural images with soothing music  
6.20 **Business Daily**  
6.30 **Channel Four Daily**  
9.25 **Schools**  
12.00 **The Parliament Programme**  
12.30 **Business Daily**  
1.00 **Sesame Street**, Children's pre-  
school educational series  
2.00 **Film: An American Romance**  
(1944), Sonja's saga about a Czech  
immigrant (Brian Donovon) who  
arrives in America almost penniless in  
1898 but goes on to become an  
industrial tycoon. Epic Hollywood  
production designed to promote the  
American way of life. Directed by King  
Vidor  
4.15 **An Interrupted Weekend**, Period  
thriller animated by Václav Benich  
4.30 **Fifteen-to-One**  
5.00 **The Oprah Winfrey Show**, A classic  
Oprah show in which her guests get to  
meet the people they have long had  
in their heads (r)  
5.50 **Black Island**, Episode one of a 12-  
part TinTin adventure (r)  
6.00 **The Wonder Years**, Sentimental  
American comedy series about growing  
up in the Sixties (r)  
6.30 **A Different World**, Comedy series  
about four young women at a black  
college in New York City  
7.00 **Party Political**, Comment from a  
Labour party politician. Followed by  
**Weather**  
8.00 **Brookside**, Enjoyable Merseyside  
soap. (Teletext)  
8.30 **Dispatches**  
CH-Choice: An industrial tribunal in  
Nottingham yesterday gave its verdict in  
the first known case of racial



Ayub Khan Din as PC Surinder Singh (8.30pm)

- discrimination brought by a serving  
police officer. Expected to last three  
weeks, the hearing went on for more  
than a year as the Nottinghamshire force  
called witnesses to refute the  
allegation of PC Surinder Singh that his  
rejection for the CID was due to an  
unofficial colour bar. **Dispatches**  
presents a reconstruction of key  
episodes from the hearing, based on the  
transcripts and using actors. The  
credibility of the evidence raises  
obvious dangers, although the  
uncommitted viewer may find the  
programme even-handed enough to  
suggest that instead of being, as it  
were, a simple matter of black and  
white there were several shades of grey.  
In deciding for PC Singh, the tribunal  
had to weigh directly conflicting claims,  
in which it was often his word  
against that of his fellow officers  
9.30 **Without Walls: The Thing**  
Is ... Prisons. A look at the horrifying  
ideas given bricks and mortar reality  
in the bleakness of Pentonville and  
Strangeways prisons. The ways in  
which inmates decorate their cells to  
preserve their sanity is also given

- resident, not least the kestral, which has  
become a town dweller and happily  
adapted to the roar of motorway traffic.  
(Oracle)  
10.00 **News** at Ten with Sandy Gall and  
Trevor McDonald. Weather 10.30  
**Thames News** and weather  
10.40 **Midweek Sport Special**, Nick Owen  
presents highlights of third round  
matches in the Rumbelows Cup and  
looks at the draw for the fourth round.  
Plus coverage of the European  
heavyweight title fight between Britain's  
Lennox Lewis and Jean Chamel from  
France  
12.15am **Film: Halloween** (1978) starring  
Donald Pleasence, Jamie Lee Curtis and  
Nancy Loomis. A psychotic murderer  
who struck on Halloween threatens to  
do so again 15 years later. A film  
which puts all other teen slasher and  
movies to shame. It is intelligently  
made, making excellent use of lighting  
and shadows, while the haunting  
music creates an electric atmosphere in  
which the viewer is teased by false  
promises and made to jump at the most  
unexpected moments. Visually, an  
unashamed tribute to Hitchcock that  
cleverly manages to avoid being a  
mere copy. Directed by John Carpenter  
1.55 **Witches, Wizards and Warlocks**,  
Jonathan Harris hosts the programme  
which looks at witchcraft, voodoo  
and black magic  
2.20 **Videofashion**, A tour of the  
showrooms and boutiques of Milan  
2.40 **America's Top Ten**  
3.10 **Quiz Night**, Pub and club quiz  
3.40 **Books by My Bedside**, Featuring  
Mary Whitehouse  
4.10 **Windsurf**, Sailboard action  
4.40 **Fifty Years On** (DvP)  
5.00 **TinTin Morning** News with Brenda  
Rowe. Ends at 6.00

- attention Presented by Paul Morley.  
Followed by Books in which  
leading foreign correspondents discuss  
books written by their peers, many of  
them inspired by tumultuous events  
on the world stage over the last 18  
months  
10.30 **Sixty Moments on Tour** with  
Julian Clary, Lunt game show full of  
humour for its contestants  
11.15 **Sex Talk**, Karen Kiznowich chairs  
a discussion about women's sexual  
fantasies  
12.00 **Shay: Making the Chocolate**  
Man.  
CH-Choice: After the *He-Play* season  
of short plays by male writers new to  
television, Channel 4 demonstrates  
its allegiance to the principle of equal  
opportunities by offering a so-called  
spot to the opposite sex. *Making the*  
*Chocolate Man* is a humorous but  
hard-edged piece by Pat Anderson and  
Mina Parsels about an overweight  
teenager (Mark Benton) who is addicted  
to chocolate bars and trapped at  
home by his mother (Tamara Hinchoo).  
Offered the chance to escape this  
lonely existence by the local crumpet  
(Samantha Edwards), he fails to  
seize it and decides to take a bizarre  
and dangerous revenge on his  
oppressors. A neatly-turned drama  
which manages to say much in its  
short space. *Making the Chocolate Man*  
is directed by a woman (Di Paton),  
and produced by Walter Stumper,  
a company run by Lavinia Warner of  
Tango and Jane Wollstoneley  
12.15am **Sid Caesar's Show of Shows**  
(b/w). Highlights from Sid Caesar's  
classic comedy series  
12.45 **Rock Steady Special**, Rocker Dave  
Edmunds in concert at London's Town &  
Country Club (r). Ends at 1.40

## JTV VARIATIONS

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As London except: 8.25-9.00 **Anglia News**  
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## EC approves Air France deal for rivals

From Peter Guilford in Brussels

SIR Leon Brittan, the European competition commissioner, has approved Air France's acquisition of UTA and Air Inter, its chief French rivals, in return for a commitment to throw open a slice of the protected French airline market to competition.

He said the deal "marked a dramatic change of tone" in France's protectionist attitude to air transport.

He used the deal as a platform from which to launch another attack on British Airways for failing to co-operate more fully over his enquiry into BA's planned link with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and Belgium's Sabena.

Praising the "courage" of the French government and Air France, Sir Leon said he expected a more constructive approach from the British, Dutch and Belgian carriers.

Relations have grown hostile after Sir Colin Marshall, BA's chief executive, accused Brussels of dragging its feet.

Sir Leon said he saw "considerable advantages" in the plan to create a "hub and spoke" network at Brussels airport, raising hopes that he will not try to unscramble the

three-way deal, although talks currently appear grounded.

But according to one aide, Sir Leon will not sanction the Sabena World Airlines venture until convinced it will not strengthen Sabena's monopoly of Brussels, diminish competition on the Heathrow-Brussels route nor stifle competition between Brussels and Amsterdam airports.

The Air France deal, described by Sir Leon as "unthinkable even a few months ago", will leave the French market, hitherto the most protected in northern Europe, more open than Germany, though still marginally less so than Britain.

From next March, France will be obliged to give at least one of the new Air France group's competitors privileged access to flights from Paris to Nice, Strasbourg, Bastia and Ajaccio, and the same on flights to Marseilles, Toulouse, Bordeaux and Montpellier a year later.

Air France will gradually relinquish its 35 per cent stake in TAT, the biggest French airline outside the group, leaving it to become an independent competitor by mid-1992.

## Low's £37.9m surprise



Profits rise 21 per cent: James Millar, left, and Christopher Blake, the chairman

WM LOW, the Scottish supermarket group, surprised the City with a £37.9 million rights issue to finance an ambitious store opening programme that will increase by a third the amount of selling space the group uses (Gillian Bowditch writes).

The one-for-four issue at 280p has been underwritten by Barings. Low's shares fell 23p to 331p but news of the cash call was received favourably by the City, with most institutions agreeing to take up their rights.

The cash call will lead to the

issue of 13.9 million new shares. Ordinary shareholders receive one new share for every four held and convertible preference shareholders receive 0.469 of a new share for every four held.

James Millar, Low's managing director, said the new stores and extensions would create 27,000 square feet of new selling space by the end of next year. The £60 million programme will involve ten new stores and will expand the chain in England. Low currently operates 63 stores.

Bank borrowings have risen

from £7.9 million to £19.6 million in the last year and, without the rights issue, the gearing ratio would have been more than 50 per cent.

Pre-tax profits for the year to September rose 21 per cent to £21.3 million on sales up 16.5 per cent to £354 million. Earnings per share rose 26 per cent to 28.1p. The 5.25p final dividend makes a total 7.75p, up 19 per cent. There was an extraordinary charge of £855,000 for the cost of the aborted acquisition of the Gateway northern stores from Isoceles.

## BT private circuit charges to rise 9.8%

By Ross Tieman

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BRITISH Telecom is increasing charges for its private circuits, lines rented out permanently to business users, by 9.8 per cent. The rise is the maximum allowed under regulatory constraints and is equal to inflation, as measured by the retail price index in July.

Prices for users of traditional analogue equipment, where Mercury does not compete with BT, are going up most sharply, and soon. From December 1, connection charges for analogue circuits will rise 15 per cent, access lines will rise 13.7 per cent, and rental for both will rise 11 per cent.

Charges for modern digital equipment, where Mercury has a significant share of the market, will not rise until the spring and will go up by less. A BT spokesman said the increases reflected the real cost of analogue circuits.

The increases have been examined by the Office of Telecommunications, the industry regulator, and were found to be within the rules. An OfTel spokesman said that BT was allowed to vary individual charges so long as the overall "basket" of private circuit charges did not increase by more than inflation.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Abbey National cuts savings interest rates

THE Abbey National is cutting its savings rates by a range of 0.35 per cent to 0.8 per cent from tomorrow. The cuts are, on average, smaller than the Halifax Building Society's which were announced on Monday. The Abbey will pay 11 per cent on its 90-day sterling asset account on sums of more than £25,000, compared with 10.7 per cent at the Halifax. The Woolwich Building Society is cutting its savings rates by an average of 0.8 per cent, giving a rate of 11.31 per cent on sums of more than £25,000 in its instant access prime gold account.

Meanwhile, the Leeds Permanent Building Society is to offer a free dealing service for electricity shares to anyone who has a Leeds savings account. The offer is limited to one electricity company per investor.

### Trust's pre-tax revenue rises

NET asset value at London & Strathclyde Trust, the investment trust managed by Cartmore Investment, fell to 246.5p (309.6p) per share in the year to end August. Pre-tax revenue rose by 14 per cent to £1.42 million. Gross revenue grew by 14 per cent to £2.17 million. Earnings per share rose to 7.2p (6.2p). The final dividend is 3.95p (3.55p), making a total of 5.45p (4.8p).

### Haemocell in rights issue

HAEMOCCELL, the biotechnology company, plans to raise £2.5 million through a one-for-four rights issue of 3.13 million new shares at 90p per share. It is also seeking admission to the Unlisted Securities Market by way of introduction. Pre-tax losses deepened from £387,000 to £606,000 in the year to end-August. The shares fell 20p to 95p.

### Aitken Hume payout

AITKEN Hume, the financial services group, is resuming its interim dividend with a 0.5p payout, despite a 6 per cent fall in earnings per share to 1.66p in the half year to end-September. Pre-tax profits rose 4 per cent to £1.5 million, on a 31 per cent profit rise to £906,000 at the Buchanan Group, the Guernsey-based financial services subsidiary. Aitken is issuing 8.59 million shares as further payment for Buchanan. Profits at the American fund management group fell 53 per cent to £507,000. Profits from the bank in the British and Channel Islands fell 24 per cent to £498,000.

### Iceland buys 32 stores

ICELAND Frozen Foods has bought 32 stores from Freezrite, part of the food operations of the failed Corton Beach group, for £1.8 million cash. Iceland said each of the stores was being assessed and about half would continue to trade, with the rest being sold. The purchase brings the total number of stores in the Iceland chain to more than 490.

### DG Durham edges ahead

DG DURHAM Group, the Unlisted Securities Market-quoted insurance and reinsurance broker, lifted pre-tax profits from £475,000 to £484,000 in the six months to end-June. Group turnover declined from £4.54 million to £4.31 million in "extremely difficult" trading conditions. Earnings per share slipped from 2.4p to 2.2p. The interim dividend is maintained at 1p.

### Jackson Group falls

JACKSON Group, the East Anglian construction and industrial services group, suffered a 20 per cent decline in first-half profits and gave warning of depressed group performance in the second half. The shares lost 10p to 88p, having recovered from 75p.

Pre-tax profits slipped from £1.27 million to £1.07 million in the six months to end-June, following reduced profit margins and higher interest charges. Turnover grew from £26.3 million to £28.9 million. Earnings per share fell from 3.7p to 3p, although the interim dividend is maintained at 1p.

### Anglo-Park plunges to £404,000

THE downturn in the commercial property market has taken its toll on Anglo-Park Group, the Winchester commercial property developer which came to the market last December.

Pre-tax profits plunged from £1.77 million to £404,000 in the year to end-June. There is a final dividend of 3p (5p) for the year. Earnings per share dropped from 30.6p to 4.4p.

The company said net assets per share were 56.2p, on the basis of a professional valuation of the group's properties at the year-end. There was also an unrealised surplus of 9.3p per share on completed developments, making a total net assets per share valuation of 65.5p.

### Whittington loss

Whittington, the giftware, greetings cards and silverware group, has reported a £746,000 pre-tax loss for the first six months of the year, against a £151,000 profit last time. It also announced the disposal of JW Bonser, its loss-making silver-plated giftware business. There is no interim dividend, compared with 0.2p last year.

### Property firm up

Estates & Agency Holdings, the property investment company, increased pre-tax profits by 39 per cent to £337,000 in the first six months of the year. The interim dividend will be declared in March 1991 because of a year-end change.

### Ford hit by loss outside US

From John Durie in New York

FORD Motor Company has reported a 79 per cent drop in third-quarter profits to \$102 million after making a loss of \$80 million in its non-US sales.

Ford's problems in Brazil and Argentina were highlighted in the international division results, which tumbled from a \$324 million profit in the third quarter last year.

Production at Ford's European factories was down in the quarter, with British production down from 101,950 cars last year to 95,200 cars this year. The company's German factories produced 6,000 fewer cars, down to 200,519, and production at its Spanish factories fell from 64,692 cars to 56,895.

World-wide profits slumped dramatically with Ford making \$1.4 billion in the first nine months this year against \$3.5 billion in the same period last year. The results, announced yesterday, reflect the slump in the American car industry.

On Monday, Chrysler reported a loss in the third quarter of \$214 million. General Motors is expected to report a loss today after taking a charge of more than \$700 million to close five plants.

Ford's market share in America fell 1.1 percentage points in the third quarter to 21.2 per cent.

### ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT 1,278	CU 388	Lombard 2,292	Siebe 291
Abbey Nat 2,154	Coopers 3,383	Luce 1,492	Stamps 453
ABC-Lions 1,154	Courtauld 388	Manpower 25	Strat & N 1,127
Amersad 547	Dargay 156	M&S 3,983	St. George's 3,111
Anglian 481	Dunlop 1,817	McNeill-Cm 205	Do Us 101
Anglo 788	EEC 1,182	Midland 1,482	Smith Wm 441
ASDA 2,888	Enterprise 490	MEPC 227	Southern Ind 28
AB Foods 28	Ferranti 825	Midland 1,086	STC 828
Anglo 3,224	Heids 2,282	Midland 1,086	STC 828
BA 2,019	Flu 1,806	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
BET 1,408	Gen Acc 897	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
BTH 1,815	GEC 3,755	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
BAC 1,288	Glaxo 1,171	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Bardley 4,372	Glynwed 211	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Bass 841	Grange 1,224	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Beecham 1,580	Grand Met 2,233	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Bentley Ind 880	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
BICC 1,571	GPO 1,521	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Blue Circle 2,897	Gro 827	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
BOC 1,128	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
BPL 188	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Br Aero 527	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Br Arundel 498	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Br Gas 4,310	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Br Land 587	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Br Palford 2,925	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Br Steel 1,388	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Br Telecom 2,884	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Burns 2,105	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Burnham Cast 152	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Barton 913	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
C&W 2,876	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Carroll 1,281	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Cash 1,281	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Catton 721	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771
Opus 1,780	Guinness 1,345	Nat West 4,337	Stan Chest 1,771

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Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Turnover: £0 - £250,000 £250,000 - £500,000 £500,000+

**Girobank**  
BUSINESS BANKING







**STOCK MARKET**

## City ignores Rank reassurances

The directors declared a first-quarter interim dividend of 3.75 cents a share yesterday but added that the full-year result to June 1991 would probably not improve on the previous year's Aus\$140.7 million.

During the second half the level of bad debts rose to £3.15 million for the year, largely as a result of the downturn in the construction and property sectors. Of this, £2 million is recovered by credit insurance.

The capital spend was £21 million, of which £9.4 million was raised from share issues.

The shares were unchanged at 120p.

£720 million and slashed the forecast of Barclays, its own parent company, 13p cheaper at 332p, from £1.27 billion to £1.09 billion in the current year and from £1.45 billion to £1.1 billion in 1991. Again it blames the growing problem of bad debt and gives warning

Wm Low, the Scottish supermarket chain, fell 23p to 331p, after surprising the market with details of a £37.9 million rights issue. The terms are on the basis of one-for-four at 280p. The group intends to use the proceeds to finance its development programme. Roll over stamps from the

**Powerscreen International** fell 6p to 143p after reporting first half pre-tax profits almost £1 million higher at £9 million.

## WALL STREET

industrial average rose 4.7 points to 2,434.9, with advancing shares narrowly ahead of declining shares.

Tokyo - Shares opened lower on index futures-linked selling by investors due to a slightly weaker yen and the absence of fresh market factors.

The Nikkei index was down 74.73 points to 25,254.58 in the first ten minutes of trade.

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Eurotunnel's transport system is planned to be operational in 1993. Over 70 miles of tunnels have now been bored, out of a total of 94 miles. The service tunnel, one of three tunnels which will link the UK and France, is close to breakthrough.

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Investment in Eurotunnel involves a significant degree of risk. The value of shares and rights to subscribe for shares can go down as well as up. Investment in the Eurotunnel Rights Issue should be made only on the basis of information contained in the prospectus which is to be published in the form of a circular if you are considering investing in Eurotunnel. It is recommended that you consult an appropriate professional adviser issued by Eurotunnel P.L.C. and Eurotunnel S.A. and approved by: **Moore Greeting & Co. Limited**, a member of The Securities Association, for the purpose of Section 47 of the Financial Services Act 1986.

[illegible]

MAJOR INDICES		MAJOR CHANGES	
New York:		RISSES:	
Dow Jones	2417.82 (-12.38)*	CE Health	413½p (+12p)
Nickel Composite	300.53 (-1.35)*	Cadwalder	230p (+17p)
Nikkei Average	2282.40 (-86.51)	FALLS:	
Hong Kong:		Sunrise & Vine	180p (-10p)
Hang Seng	3011.65 (-51.88)	Banetys	331½p (-13p)
FIE Eurostock	354.59 (-15.54)	Midland	178½p (-8p)
Amsterdam:		Net West	242½p (-12p)
CSX Tendency	66.7 (-0.5)	Swire	530p (-3p)
Synthetic Ind	120.5 (-1.5)	Wentworth	62p (-10p)
Frankfurt DAX	1431.14 (-23.35)	Young 'A	73p (-10p)
Brussels:		Lloyds Abbey	113½ (-10p)
Paris CAC	5198.94 (-7.32)	Gleno	785p (-11p)
Zurich SMI	428.70 (+1.02)	Basis Borneo	735p (-10p)
Zurich S&P 300	407.8 (-6.0)		
London:		Rack Org	542½p (-36p)
FT-A All-Share	935.87 (-11.56)	BSG	5057½p (-50p)
FT-100	1051.10 (-10.00)	St. James	333½p (-25p)
FT Gold Mines	139.9 (+0.1)	THORN Emi	611½p (-10p)
FT Food Int'l	56.82 (+0.01)	Iceland Frozen	271½p (-12p)
FT Govt Secs	80.11 (+0.20)	William Law	330½p (-23p)
FT Industrials	1085.6	Wells	277½p (-12p)
SEAO Volume	13656	Chesford	325p (-30p)
USM (Delistream)	104.56 (-0.78)	J Smurfit	622½p (-17p)

**TRADITIONAL OPTIONS**

First Dealings October 22	Last Dealings November 8	Last Declaration February 7	For Settlement February 18
Options were taken out on Jan 30/1988 ADT, Business Tech, Conroy Petroleum, Davy, Hearn, Stacks, Tusker Res.			
Put: Vaul Ponds			
Puts & Collar ADT, Brent Walker.			



# Portfolio

## PLATINUM

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[illegible]

191	1-9	Boston	135	1-2	1	85	63	151
46	31	Burlington	23	36		10	29	278
377	324	Cap & Courches	225	215	2	170	52	146
425	325	Cardinal Prop	300	350		31	10	95.3

107	35	Clare Nichols	57	47	+2	0.71	1.7	4.6
239	88	Clayton	190	195	-3	7.6	7.4	2.0
200	118	Connell	191	196	-5	7.6	7.4	1.8
511	24	Control Sers	221	221	0	7.1	7.1	4.2
180	106	Cox	202	205	-3	10.3	10.9	4.3
815	580	Duncan	699	710	-11	30.1	24.4	5.1
291	8	Dan Escobar	10	11	-1	1.0	8.5	1.0

451	328	Greewood	231	126	-5	6.9	21	14.8
474	274	Trailwood Co	271					
54	38	Hammco Countryw	41	43	-1	0.18	0.2	
678	549	Hammerson	575	589	-4	25.0	4.5	15.7
858	516	Do 'A (aa)	547	560	-2	26.0	4.7	18.8
117	47	Hammco House	40	40		2.7	4.3	

## MINING

## MINING

**L-R**

75%	32%	Am Gold	32%	33%	4%	..	..	..
14	11	Arg Amer Coal	11%	11%	..	b	..	..
22%	12	Am	12%					

210	240
15	18

7%	133	Bruce's	151	169	+3
7%	23	Braden	41	51	-
12%	64	Buffels	74	74	+4

154 27 358

37	12 Butte	11 1/2	13 1/4		
599	357 CRA	382	388	+6	
15 1/2	8 1/2 De Beers	5 1/2	8 1/2	+3	
272	120 Blackhawk	100	128		

23 27  
71 75

372	128	Dormitoren	123	128	-	..	..	..
161	59	Dormitoren	51	66	-	-	-	-
764	527	Dormitoren	540	563	+4			
78	3	Dorf	1	5				

194	197
60	65

751	160	Durban	236	283				
494	192	E Dagga	173	218				
731	293	Elandsrand	402	428				
130					1	1		

73	50
130	132

342	111 E Rand Gold	102	173
399	90 E Rand Prop	205	243
104	418 FS Cons	430	461

1.51 144  
54 64

25	66	FS Dev	62	70	..	0	..
20	84	GFS4	84	94	..	..	..
85	25	Genov Tr	24	28	..	..	..

115	122
252	256

242	110	Cancer	107	125	..	.	..	.
62	29%	GMI Katgouch	29%	30%	..	.	.	..
43	13	Greenwich Res	14	17	..	.	.	..
203	46	Emmett	53	53	..	.	.	..

25) 37 39  
57 59

876	324	Hannony	384	423	+2	.	.
663	279	Harbes	292	318	+1	.	.
101	64	Kumoc	74	81	.	.	.

**S-Z**

854	432	Kloof	473	297	B + 1
167	60	Leshe	66	74	---
180	45	Lubangri	38	53	B
210	85	Lubangri	108	121	B

6.70	896
417	427

509	60	Lincoln	180	171			
119	76	MP4	74	71			
10%	753	Manorco	788	809			
145	82	Jim Broken Hat	83	87			

3.2.2.2. **3.2.2.2. 3.2.2.2.**

24%	10% Orange Face	10%	70%				
605	232 RTZ Jan	408	413	-7	250	63	66
24%	11% Rand Mines Ltd	11%	12	+1			
25%	15% Rand Mines Ltd	15%	12				

260	270
103	105
111	114

301	100	Random	115	100	-	-	-
720	231	Random	211	266	+1	-	-
458	282	Random	271	267	-3	-	-
154	74	Random	84	84	-	260	20 643

99	103
14	17

883	410	St Helena	435	461	-4	-	-	-
36	12	Soudraal	129	139	..	-	-	-
431	100	Staltonen	166	206	+4	..	..	..

ಅಗ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

620	204	Unsub	249	213	-	-	-	-
814	334	Vial Rept	341	344	+3	-	-	-
210	48	Vennergast	43	53	-3	-	-	-
660	270	Welkom	276	282	-	-	-	-

35 36

209	63	Western Areas	56	71	.	-	..
344	15	Western Deep	164	174	+1	-	..
332	167	Western Mining	176	180	4	-	.. ..

138 139

22%	8%	Winnipeg	29	10%	--	--	--	--
29	16	Zambia Copper	16	16	--	--	--	--
105	48	Zandean	50	--	--	--	--	--

### MONERO ALPHABET

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT



## FOREIGN EXCHANGES

compared with 1985 was up at 94.8 (day's range 93.5-96.1) and software sales at 94.8 (day's range 93.5-96.1).

SPOT AND FORWARD RATES			
October 30			
	Spot	1 month	3 months
Argentina	100.00	100.00	100.00
Australia	100.00	100.00	100.00

Age	Close	1 month	3 month	Bahrain de
515	1.9500-1.9510	1.02-1.01pr	2.74-2.72pr	Brazil cruz
	0.0000-0.0000	0.01-0.00pr	0.58-0.51pr	Cyprus po

9.68	22.21-22.68	0.94-1.20pr	0.90-1.10pr	Finland rose
4.39	3.3955-3.3391	1%-1%pr	4%-4%pr	Greece dr
1.12	60.80-61.03	29-24pr	79-70pr	Hong Kong

078	1.1088-1.1078	42-37pr	96-87pr	India rupee
073	2.9572-2.9606	1% - 1%pr	3% - 3%pr	Kuwait din
				Malaysia

1.92	259.45-260.56	14-17ds	67-118ds	Wash, D.C.
3.17	185.15-185.83	3-7ds	25-37ds	Mexico per
3.49	2214.71-2219.75	7-5pr	17-14pr	New Zeal



NEWCASTLE UPON-TYNE

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT by Peter Davenport

# Bridging the past with pride

Newcastle was severely hit by the decline in Britain's need for heavy industry, but the city shrugged off the past and set itself ambitious targets that, with the help of investment from abroad, are now coming to fruition

Early one morning last month a white speedboat sped through the streets of Newcastle upon Tyne carrying a delegation from the Soviet government, including representatives from the ministries of defence, foreign affairs and shipbuilding. Faced with the enormous task of improving their outdated industries to support President Gorbachev's free market, they had come to learn practical lessons from a region that had hauled itself up from economic despair to a remarkable revival.

During the past decade, Newcastle and the northeast region has experienced the painful contraction of traditional industries, such as coal, steel, shipbuilding and heavy engineering, which left a legacy of dereliction, crippling unemployment and a sense of hopelessness.

Today it would be impossible to recognise the area from that description. Unemployment has been halved, there has been an influx of new industries and investment, most notably the £1.3 billion pumped in by companies from Japan and the Far East, and the very fabric is undergoing important transformations. This is particularly evident along the banks of the River Tyne, where the government's Tyne and Wear Development Corporation, responsible for regenerating 700 acres of quayside, has attracted investments of £300 million from the private sector for its flagship schemes, and also within the city itself.

Alan Clarke, the head of the economic development unit of Newcastle city council, has a clear vision of the future of a city whose past reputation was built on its importance as an industrial powerhouse, producing coal, armaments, steel and ships.

Mr Clarke says: "We see the new Newcastle becoming a European business centre of excellence and quality. About 80 per cent of our workers are now employed in the service

sector, with only 20 per cent in manufacturing, and this is just about the right mix because we realise that a good service sector depends on a healthy, if slumped, manufacturing sector.

"I took this job in 1986 when unemployment was at 21 per cent and it was the worst of times, but I believed in the product. I felt it could only get better, and it has. It will continue to do so over the next five years."

"Our recovery is still fragile and we need the performance of the past four years to be maintained for a decade, but we are now in a much stronger position to withstand the effects of any national recession."

As an example of the renewed confidence Newcastle has in itself, the city council will invest up to £1.5 million in the next five years on an advertising and promotional drive to

"sell" the area to business decision makers and institutional investors in London.

The campaign, headed by the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency, begins today and the aim is to improve the outdated "cloth cap and whipper" image some people have of the city and to stimulate further investment. "We felt that if we were really going to succeed in regenerating the local economy we had to change the image that many people still had of us," Mr Clarke says.

A survey of 70 managing directors of "London" and southeast-based companies operating in six key sectors of the economy was undertaken by the British Market Research Bureau and the results confirmed the presence of a misinformed "stagnant" image of the city.

Recent improvements in modern communications and transport are promoting development. Government approval has been given for the upgrading of the entire 260-mile stretch of the A1 between the M25 and Tyneside to six-lane-motorway standard by the year 2000. The British Rail east-coast main line will be electrified by May next year, cutting journey time from Newcastle to London by 30 minutes to two-and-a-half hours. Newcastle International airport, which sends 1.6 million passengers a year to 40 locations, including most European business centres, expects to increase numbers to two million by the middle of the decade.

Work has started on extending the city's underground rail system, the Metro, out to the airport. The Port of Tyne, an important element in Newcastle's heavy industrial past, continues to play a big role, offering container and freight shipping services, as well as passenger ferry links to Scandinavia and northern Europe.

"They are all important parts of the package the city council believes will help to attract new investment from home and abroad."

"Looking five years ahead, I see us secure as one of the important provincial centres," Mr Beecham says.

**"We envisage the new Newcastle becoming a European business centre of excellence and quality"**

a city in its own right, rather as part of the northern region. They believed it was surrounded by bleak and wild countryside, that it had no stature, was distant and peripheral.

On the positive side, there was recognition and admiration of the area's own efforts at revival, appreciation of its strong retail sector and a belief that things were getting better.

"We decided that we had to undertake a long-term, sustained campaign to improve our image. It could not be done in 12 months, but would take between three and five years and, if successful, would bring in new companies, attract further investment and aid the tourist industry as well."

It was a brave political decision by the council because, like many others, it is facing many financial pressures," Mr Clarke says.

The authority is producing a unitary development plan which will cover land use for the next 20 years and it will be pressing the government to allow selective development

in the green belt. It is clear there is interest in such developments. The city council is studying a proposal to create Britain's largest "green" industrial and business park, costing £750 million on a 2,000-acre site near Newcastle International airport in the centre of the green belt, although this has been put in abeyance pending deliberations on the unitary development plan.

Among the ambitious projects are the highly successful Newcastle Business Park, the recently completed £50 million Eldon Garden shopping centre, £30 million improvements to the city's premier thoroughfare, Grey Street, and a £6 million facelift for Lloyds Bank.

There are new homes, hotels, office, retail and leisure facilities planned or underway on the quayside which will renew the river's importance to the life of the city.

Newcastle continues to be the home for many enterprises

with international reputations, including Northern Engineering Industries (NEI), one of the area's largest employers, involved in the design, manufacture, construction, commissioning and servicing of capital plant around the world, Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, Press Offshore, Swan Hunter and Vickers defence systems.

The offshore oil and gas industry has grown in importance, with about 200 companies, employing around 20,000 people, based in the city and surrounding region. The area is strong, too, in electronics and information technology, advanced materials, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, food processing, clothing and textiles, plastics, food and soft drinks.

An estimated 120 foreign companies are represented, including more than 30 from Japan and the Far East, 45 from the United States and 24 from Europe, and it is hoped to attract more.

Some concern has been expressed about the dependence of the local economy on foreign-owned companies, which do not have their headquarters in the region. However, Mr Clarke says many of the foreign-owned companies are setting up European centres in the run-up to the Single Market in 1992.



"Things could only get better": Jeremy Beecham, leader of the city council

## A CITY MADE FROM COAL AND STEEL. A PEOPLE MADE OF STRONGER STUFF.

### A pragmatic approach helps pay dividends

The city's Labour council has adopted Tory ideas that will benefit its citizens

FIVE years ago, Kenneth Clarke, then the environment secretary, set the tone for the relationship between a Conservative government and a local authority that was solidly Labour controlled. "Newcastle," he said, "is a city we can do business with."

Mr Clarke's observations were a recognition of the pragmatic approach adopted by the city council under Jeremy Beecham, a solicitor who has been its leader since 1977. The policy has served Newcastle well, particularly at a time when other Labour-controlled authorities in places such as Liverpool have carried opposition to a point where it has appeared to have detrimental effects on their communities.

"We are opposed to much of what the Conservative government does, but our attitude has been that if there is something in what they do that will benefit our city, we look at it carefully and, if necessary, act on it," Mr Beecham says.

This attitude has had a positive effect on investment in the region, by foreign and British companies. It is reflected in the working relationships the city council has with the government-created Tyne and Wear Development Corporation, local businesses and regional offices of central government.

Although Newcastle has progressed since its low point of the mid-Eighties, much remains to be achieved, particularly in further reducing unemployment, improving housing stock and developing education services.

Mr Beecham believes the city will become an increasingly important base of the service sector for "the new Europe," as well as protecting and enhancing its reputation for manufacturing skills in the new technologies.

The city has a thriving higher education system, which includes Newcastle University, with its international reputation in medicine, engineering and computing sciences; the polytechnic, the Newcastle fashion school, considered one of the best in the country; and Newcastle College, one of the biggest further education colleges in the UK, known for art and design as well as its catering and building sciences. All have close links with industry.

Recent improvements in modern communications and transport are promoting development. Government approval has been given for the upgrading of the entire 260-mile stretch of the A1 between the M25 and Tyneside to six-lane-motorway standard by the year 2000. The British Rail east-coast main line will be electrified by May next year, cutting journey time from Newcastle to London by 30 minutes to two-and-a-half hours. Newcastle International airport, which sends 1.6 million passengers a year to 40 locations, including most European business centres, expects to increase numbers to two million by the middle of the decade.

Work has started on extending the city's underground rail system, the Metro, out to the airport. The Port of Tyne, an important element in Newcastle's heavy industrial past, continues to play a big role, offering container and freight shipping services, as well as passenger ferry links to Scandinavia and northern Europe.

"They are all important parts of the package the city council believes will help to attract new investment from home and abroad."

"Looking five years ahead, I see us secure as one of the important provincial centres," Mr Beecham says.



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Gerry Page, project manager of the airport expansion



# Hope of the rebuilt northeast

Where once stood heavy industrial factories, opportunities are opening in a £150 million business park, 'the largest business development site created in the north of England in half a century'

On the banks of the River Tyne, the Newcastle Business Park is emerging from the dereliction of a former armaments factory, part of the city's heavy engineering past, to become a symbol of its new economic future.

A total investment of £150 million is creating 750,000 sq ft of premier office space, which has attracted a range of nationally known companies providing 4,000 jobs between them.

Although the park, on 60 acres of the former Vickers Armstrong armaments plant and warship yards, will not be completed until next August, it is already 80 per cent let, and negotiations are underway with companies interested in taking a further 7 per cent of the space.

Among the organisations that have taken sites are AA Insurance Services, British Airways, Cellnet, the ministry of agriculture intervention board and Mertz and McLellan, a firm of engineering consultants.

The latest company planning to move to the park is ICL, the computer concern which has had offices in the city for more than 30 years. Its proposed site, 16,000 sq ft in the west wing of Weymouth House, is twice the size of its present accommodation.

"Given the growth of our business in the northeast and our confidence in the future of the region, we needed to

establish a new regional headquarters in Newcastle," says David Wimpess, ICL's UK personnel director. "The business park was a natural choice and met all our requirements."

Newcastle Business Park, the largest of its kind to be built in the north of England, was initiated by the Tyne and Wear Development Corporation (TandWDC), the government-created body responsible for the physical improvement and economic regeneration of six miles of Tyne riverside in the city, covering a total of 700 acres. It is being built by Dysart Developments, a local company, and is a flagship among the £500 million of developments launched so far by the corporation.

The park, ten minutes' walk from the city centre and 15 minutes by car from Newcastle international airport, faces two of the most socially deprived housing estates in the city.

Alistair Balls, the chief executive of the corporation, says that an important element of the scheme is to create job opportunities for people from the estates, where up to half the residents are unemployed. Anyone who joins a series of pre-recruitment training courses is guaranteed a job interview with one of the companies.

Mr Balls believes the success of the park points the way to the economic future of Newcastle as a thriving provincial capital, providing



Work plan: jobs will be created, says Alistair Balls, the development corporation chief

more high-quality service-sector jobs.

Rents on the business park, of £9 to £10 a sq ft, are good value, compared with those in London and other regional cities. The corporation plans to provide a further 750,000 sq ft of top quality office space, suitable for company headquarters, to meet a continuing need within the city.

Much effort has been made to create an attractive environment at the business park. Before any of the buildings went up, the development corporation spent £12 million removing all traces of dereliction, rebuilding the river edge, installing roads and services and removing an old railway line that restricted access.

A further £3 million is being spent on landscaping, with thousands of trees planted, the creation of an Italian Renaissance-style garden, and the refurbishment of stretches of historic wall that provide vertical links between the three levels of the site.

The park's first occupier was Cellnet, which established

its regional headquarters there. The company is investing £100 million in a 7,500-mile optical-fibre message-switching system for the northeast.

Last January, AA Insurance Services announced plans for an £18 million office complex at the park which will create 250 jobs, as well as the 1,250 already provided in the city. Without the prospects of new headquarters on the park, AAIS might have been forced to move from the city.

The biggest single site has been taken by British Airways, which selected Newcastle from nine other cities as the location for a £36 million sales and software development centre, employing up to 1,000 people. Mr Balls says: "We believe it is the most significant investment in a decade in Newcastle, locating on the largest business development site created in the north of England in half a century. The northeast is on the way back."

A few weeks ago, the corpor-

ation embarked on its first national advertising campaign, costing £1.5 million, to mark the achievements since its creation three years ago and to stimulate further investment. The slogan is: "Welcome to the new northeast."

Part of that newness is the change in the physical appearance of the city, particularly along its historic waterfront. The corporation has several big schemes underway, including the £25 million Copthorne Hotel and office complex at Closegate and a £35 million mixed housing and marina development at St Peter's Basin. Excavation work is starting on the £150 million East Quayside, site which will provide 225,000 sq ft of offices, 120,000 sq ft of retail space with restaurants, bistros, wine bars, a 200-bed hotel, exhibition centre, homes and leisure facilities.

The corporation's activities have already had a big impact on the city. Mr Balls says: "What we have done most of all is help the city move forward with vigour and confidence that it can truly be a main provincial centre. It has always said it is but, in its heart of hearts, it has not been too sure of it. Its future lies in developing itself as an important service centre."

## Retreat for weekenders

The city earns a reputation for short-stay tourism and conferences

including an estimated 2,000 Scandinavians who arrive every weekend during peak times in the summer and the run-up to Christmas.

Newcastle has more than 100 restaurants, 60 traditional pubs, wine bars, nightclubs and theatres, including the Theatre Royal, which has been refurbished at a cost of £9.5 million.

City centre hotels have undergone £2.5 million worth of refurbishment and the range is being extended. A 120-bedroom hotel opened earlier this year at the airport; a new four-star hotel, the Copthorne, is under way in the Closegate development next to the Tyne bridge; and a 200-bed, five-star complex is planned for the £150 million East Quayside scheme.

A city centre steering group made up of traders and council officials has concentrated on making the area more attractive by improving litter control, drawing up areas for pedestrians and providing more car parking.

Newcastle is on the doorstep of four national parks - Northumberland, the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors - and the spectacular beauty of the Farne Islands is within easy reach. Kielder Water, Europe's largest man-made lake, lies 40 miles north of the city and is a popular location for water sports.

The city has proved itself capable of staging important events. The annual Great North Run, said to be the world's largest half-marathon, attracts tens of thousands of spectators, and 1.5 million visitors saw the vessels in the Tall Ships Race leave the Tyne in 1986. Even greater numbers are expected when the event returns in 1993.

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## USE YOUR INITIATIVE

The Newcastle Initiative is your initiative - organised by a dedicated partnership of community leaders, it has already boosted the city's economic life and helped new enterprises to succeed. If you'd like to know how TNI could help you (or how you could help TNI!), contact Chief Executive Bill Hay. Go ahead - use your Initiative!



**THE NEWCASTLE INITIATIVE**  
The Newcastle Initiative Office, Tyne Brewery, Callaghan, Newcastle upon Tyne NE9 9RA. Telephone: 091-222-6839.

How a survival plan saved city stores

## Festive lights to mark success

NEWCASTLE is not only the retail capital of the northeast. It is one of the leading shopping centres in the UK, offering a wide range of high street names and a variety of specialist stores. Although the city has a population of just 280,000, it serves 1.2 million people in the Tyne and Wear conurbation and attracts visitors from further afield.

The impact of the national downturn in the economy has been felt less in the city than in other areas of the country, particularly London and the southeast, and the levels of disposable income remain comparatively high.

Among the developments intended to enhance Newcastle's retail reputation further is the £50 million Eldon Garden shopping centre, completed last year, which provides 50,000 sq ft of high quality shopping on three levels at the heart of the city's main shopping area, Eldon Square. It is already proving a draw that seems certain to add to the 33 million people a year who shop in Eldon Square.

Northumberland Court, a 120,000 sq ft scheme costing £50 million, at the junction of Northumberland Street and Blackett Street, is due to be completed by Christmas next year, providing 46 shop units and a food court.

The opening of the Metro Centre, just across the city boundary at Gateshead, in 1986 meant traders in Newcastle could not rest on their laurels. About 400 shops in

Europe's largest out of town complex, together with a bowling alley, and indoor theme park, posed an obvious threat to their economic well-being. The Metro Centre attracts about 21 million visitors a year.

Initial forecasts were that trade in the city would plummet by as much as 20 per cent and, partly as a result of the threat, the City Centre Steering Group, representing traders and the council, was formed to co-operate on measures to promote city centre shopping.

Jerry Lloyd, the group's deputy chairman and deputy general manager at the Marks & Spencer store in Newcastle, the sixth largest in the UK with 72,000 sq ft of floorspace and 550 staff, says the policy has worked well. "Part of the attraction here is that the city is so compact and

there is an excellent transport system, including the Metro, a good bus service and 11,000 car parking spaces."

"The Metro Centre was seen as an obvious threat, but we have been consistently trading and the results were much better than some people had feared."

"We have all put a lot of work into making the city centre attractive to the shopper and are now reaping the benefits. This Christmas we will have the best lights outside London's West End. I believe that city centre stores and out of town shopping centres can live together."



Achievement: Alan Clarke, the city's head of economic development, at the Civic Centre, home to Lloyds Bank

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# A lesson in planning for the future

Newcastle is well served for higher education and the quality of its institutions is a main attraction for businesses intending to move to the area, from Britain and overseas.

The university, polytechnic and college of further education have a combined campus of about 38,000 students and many of their departments have international reputations.

All have concentrated on developing strong links with industry in the city and throughout the northern region. For the many Japanese companies with offices in Newcastle, those connections in research and training facilities proved persuasive in their choice of location.

Newcastle university and Newcastle polytechnic are members of an organisation called Higher Education Support for Industry in the North (Hesin), which also includes Durham university, the polytechnic at Sunderland and Teesside and the Open university (northern region).

**Earlier this year the university earned more than £2 million in commercial work in one month**

Hesin's aim is to expand the institutions' contribution to the economic growth of the region by making their academic resources more accessible to companies.

Although it has a small team of full-time staff, it can call on the skills of about 3,500 academic staff.

One of its roles is to provide information and technical support for companies through a small company formed by Hesin called RTC (Regional Technology Centre) North.

Among the projects developed by the organisation is a novel training course, launched last January, for industrial employees.

Known as the Integrated Graduate Development Scheme, the project offers a postgraduate, modular, residential course leading to a MSc degree, which is claimed to be the most ambitious inter-

**One of the biggest attractions for companies relocating to the Newcastle area is its reputation for providing first-class facilities for higher education**

institutional venture of its kind in the UK. Each course module is taught by a pool of lecturers from the member institutions.

Industry has helped shape the curriculum and some of the most progressive engineering firms in the region are participating, including Marconi, Komatsu, NEL, Swan Hunter and Vickers. The course is intended to produce a new generation of high-quality managers with a strong technology base and a keen vision of the future.

"Apart from the incentive of gaining further academic qualifications, the trainee should find the course a springboard for the development of his or her career in the rapidly changing industrial world," a Hesin spokesman says.

Newcastle university is one of the oldest in England, has 9,000 undergraduates and 1,200 postgraduate and is the tenth largest university in the country. It has a reputation for excellence in medicine, engineering, economics, computing sciences and agriculture.

Newcastle polytechnic has 12,500 undergraduates and 600 postgraduates and is highly regarded for art, design, construction, business management and science.

Newcastle college, with 16,500 students and more than 600 courses, is one of the largest further education colleges in the country.

All three institutions are represented on a "task force" that is drawing up an inventory of the city's research capabilities and producing an economic forecast for the year 2015 which will enable it to target its initiatives more effectively.

Professor Laurence Martin, the vice-chancellor of Newcastle university, has no doubt that the presence and reputation of the higher education establishments has been an important factor in the economic development of the city and the region.

"The higher education sec-

tor is vital to the success of the area," he says. "If the university went away from here it would be a tremendous blow. As well as the intellectual input we provide, we are probably the biggest employer, after the city council and the DHSS, with a workforce of 3,500 people, and we spend £70 million a year, most of it in the city."

Like many universities, Newcastle is enhancing its budget by seeking commercial research contracts. Earlier this year, for the first time, it was able to report more than £2 million of work in a month. The university is now earning more than £20 million a year from research contracts, including some £4.5 million on EC-funded projects.



Laurence Martin, vice-chancellor of Newcastle university: "Higher education is vital to the city's success"

## Task force kindles a fighting spirit

**The city is pioneering a community project to lift regional capitals out of the doldrums and signal a bright new future**

from British Telecom. "But we have a growing number of people from all over the country coming to Newcastle to see what we are doing, so we must be getting something right."

"One of the biggest changes has been in attitude. Instead of people simply wishing something would happen, they now want to be a part of the process in making sure that it does."

The city's private sector has provided about £80,000 to cover the operating costs of the programme's first three years, and a further £150,000 is pledged to sustain TNI through another three years. Its original statement of objectives said it would "identify specific projects which will help develop Newcastle as a vibrant and stylish regional capital, thereby revitalising the city's economic life so as to produce a steady growth in local employment, an improved urban environment,

and the maximum possible contribution to the economy of the whole northeast region".

The organisation, which has a core membership of 20 people from the business world, the local authority, Northern Development Company, government departments and agencies, identified a series of proposals and assigned a team to complete each one.

RECENTLY it produced progress reports on the projects which detailed the developments to date, including:

● The West City Theatre Village project. The Westgate Trust has been set up by TNI to regenerate the inner-city area of west Newcastle and change it into a thriving community with special emphasis on the arts and leisure.

The project is regarded as an important social initiative, and among the trust's roles is that of adviser to the Department of the Environment on the distribution of the City Grant within the area. It is

also charged with ensuring the development of comprehensive projects, rather than piecemeal schemes.

● The Grey Street/Quayside project. The initial aim of the proposal was to accelerate the refurbishment of Newcastle's commercial heart in Grey Street, link it to the old Quayside and restore the area to its former status as one of the most desirable commercial addresses in the north. So far, it has promoted and marketed the area as "The Grey Street Renaissance", encouraged several significant developments balanced between new in-fill buildings, the refurbishment of premises and the restoration of historic stone frontages.

● Japanese links. TNI has fostered the development of the area's commercial and cultural links with Japan and the 42 Japanese companies already in the region, which will have invested £1.4 billion by the end of 1992, creating 12,000 jobs. It now intends to establish a Japanese pavilion, or Pacific Rim trade centre, in the city and hopes to attract

one of the top Japanese banks.

● Higher education. A project to explore what contribution the city's higher education establishments can make to urban regeneration and economic development.

● Business Action in the Community. A key project to provide fresh momentum for the organisations already working in the field and to ensure that any new jobs provide opportunities for the long-term unemployed and improve the quality of life in some of the most socially deprived areas of the city. An important initiative has been also been launched in the Cruddas Park/Loadman Street area, which consists of 11 blocks of flats and three rows of low-rise, high-density housing, a total of 1,000 households where unemployment can reach 60 per cent. The aim is to get the business community to work with local people to make physical improvements to the community and provide jobs.

Mr Hay adds: "The initiative has succeeded in bringing together people from a wide range of backgrounds to work for the common aim of improving the status of the city and all those who live and work in it."



New heart: refurbishing the Grey Street commercial centre and linking it with Quayside

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# The personal touch does the job better

Finding a good secretarial agency can make all the difference in your search for interesting, well-paid work. Beryl Dixon gives some guidelines

If you are about to change employers, or look for your first job, how can you be sure of finding a good secretarial agency? Is it worth bothering with small agencies, or should you go straight to a large, well-known one? There is no easy answer. There are good and below-average agencies of all sizes.

Much depends on what you are looking for and what you would feel comfortable with. If you would feel happier dealing with the same person on each visit, then you should head for one of the larger agencies that maintains a practice of always allocating job seekers to the same consultant or to a small one where, if there are only two or three staff, the chances of seeing the same person each time are increased.

Suppose you go to a very small agency which has not been in business long — possibly one which has advertised in the local newspaper. Can you be sure it has the necessary experience, and the jobs to send you to?

The first essential check is for the agency's Department of Employment certificate, which must be displayed prominently. This shows that the owners have a licence to trade, have supplied references to the department and are visited by inspectors who ensure

they abide by the rules and deal only in the categories of employment permitted on the certificate. Then, in the case of the very new, you could enquire about the owners' background. They may well have years of experience working for someone else.

A good indication of the professionalism of an agency of any

**'You should take a selection interview before an agency takes you on as a good sign'**

size is the list of questions it asks you. Rather than being offended by a friendly grilling, you should take a selection interview before an agency takes you on its books as a good sign. Any agency which signs you up without or without a skills test and an in-depth interview is not likely to be able to place you with the most suitable employer. Expect at least a 30-minute interview.

When it comes to your turn to ask the questions, find out about working practices. Does the agency visit all its clients (employers) personally? How many clients does it have, and are they in one or two specialised fields or do they

cover a broad spectrum? If you are looking for temporary work, does someone from the agency keep in touch regularly while the temporary staff are on assignment?

Lastly, you will want to see the selection of jobs it has on file, and with a small agency you may have to ask. Small agencies are less likely to have a high street shop front office with vacancies on display. This, of course, is where a newly established agency can fall down. It may not have many, but should always tell you so.

"I always tell someone if we haven't got exactly the right kind of job," says Diana Knight, a co-director of a Winchester recruitment agency. "It is far too important for our reputation and the satisfaction of both secretary and client to put someone into an unsuitable job."

"However, if we do suggest a compromise, perhaps for one of our temps, sending her to a job as a receptionist for a week, we always pay her as though she were a shorthand user because that is the kind of job she asked us to find."

Remember, you can use more than one agency, so if you like the atmosphere at one that is just starting up, give it a chance. But if you are unsure about its volume of work, register with every agency in town.



Determined to keep the agency small and personal: Diana Knight (left) and Sandy White

## PROFILE

SUCCESSFUL small recruitment agencies have a habit of becoming bigger. They then have to decide whether to open more branches or maintain the level of personal service on which they pride themselves.

The White Knight agency in Winchester, which has achieved a turnover of £300,000 in its first year of trading, is now at that point, but the two owners have their policy already decided.

White Knight was born when Sandy White and Diana Knight met at a party. Business started with a phone and a desk. Cautious advertising brought in some enquiries from clients — and Mrs White did the first temp assignment herself.

In the first year business grew quickly and the original idea of "just the two of us" had to go. The company now employs three people, one of whom is being trained for placement work.

The pair had certain aims when they went into partnership and are determined to stick to them. Mrs Knight says: "We pride ourselves on a personal service. Most of our clients now come to us by word of mouth. Only I, Sandy or our trainee consultant, Richard Curtis, ever visit employers."

"We are selective about who we take on — both secretaries and clients — and we never fax reams of CVs to a client. We pre-select and send three candidates at most. We also hold social events for our temps and send newsletters to them and to people we have placed in permanent work."

A deliberate decision has been taken not to diversify into other types of employment or to expand to the point where more staff would be needed. "We are aiming for £450,000 turnover this year, but we feel we are a close-knit group and will only develop to the point where Richard becomes fully operational on the placement side."

"We would hate to lose the capacity we still have to rely on our own instincts — for example, when we visit a prospective client and think 'Could I work here myself?'"

White Knight Recruitment, City Line House, Winchester Train Station, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8TJ (0962 841 917).

## THE PERSONAL TOUCH

### Executive Search

Leading International Executive Search firm requires PA/Sec for Managing Partner. Candidates must be capable of dealing confidentially with senior level executives, have excellent organisational skills, be used to working on own initiative and educated at least to 'A' level standard. Speeds of 100/65 are essential. Age ca 25-35 preferred.

Please fax CV on 071-930 8085 or telephone Jane Price on 071-930 4334 for further details.

Susie Dorrner & Associates  
071 753 0160

### 'ALLO 'ALLO £20,000 CITY

I will say this only once... We are searching for a unique Personal Assistant who would be willing to take the reins and attempt to organise our charming but rather scatterbrained client, in many ways, previous experience as a 'nanny' would be advantageous combined with a highly developed sense of humour and tremendous patience! This position offers unlimited scope and a strong possibility of overseas travel. Candidates should possess sound secretarial skills to include rusty shorthand, good audio and typing of 65 wpm. Experience of Wordperfect would be an asset. Fluent French is essential to develop existing client liaison and international projects. Excellent personal presentation please. Clock watchers not acceptable! Age 28-35. Hours 9.00-5.30 (occasional overtime). Unvalued benefits.

### BACK TO THE FUTURE £20,000 SW1

A flexible PA who is totally at home being 'one of the boys' should have the time of her life with this dynamic team of international brokers. Become totally involved with international client liaison and seize the opportunity to be trained into the exciting world of futures. PA duties to include minimal private correspondence, extensive travel arrangements and looking after the well being of visiting V.I.P.'s. Overseas visits to Geneva and Paris are a distinct possibility plus the promise of never having to suffer a dull moment. Personal attributes should include: initiative, confidence, flexibility, excellent personal presentation and a keen sense of humour. Typing 60 wpm, plus a broad knowledge of word processing. Age 28-35. 4 weeks holiday plus BUPA. Hours 9.00-5.30 (occasional overtime).

### £16,000 plus perks

TV Company in West End needs a PA/Admin Assistant to help co-ordinate Finance Director. A good communicator is needed to liaise between him and his team based in London and Europe. Age 25-30. Skills 100/60.

### £18,000 plus bonus

The MD of a City-based Trading Company needs a young, ambitious PA. A French-speaker who is well organised will enjoy a role full of variety including arranging some social events. Age 22-30. Skills 100/60.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES  
071 629 9323

### £20,000 Package

Our client a major financial institution needs a secretary with good skills to assist a Vice-President.

This is an opportunity to utilise and develop your graphics techniques but also to be involved in meetings and taking Minutes. The benefits include mortgage subsidy, overtime and bonus. Age 30-35. Skills 100/70.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES  
071 629 9323

### NEW YEAR START! 'EXCEPTIONAL' P.A.

£15,500 + perks

This top international U.S. company based in Mayfair currently seek a first-class senior sec to work for a 'charming' American Vice-President. You'll need superb organisational skills, be able to liaise with clients and deal with highly confidential matters. Must be extremely articulate have a good standard of education + excellent presentation. S/TL Audio & W/P req. Ideal age 25-32. Perks include paid o/t. Interviewing now.

Call Val Wade Recruitment  
On 071 437 3793 (Rec Cons)

### Eagle Recruitment MULTI-LINGUAL SPECIALIST

French speaking PA - Senior Design, Chelsea - The 17th Floor. The client is a leading international design company. The PA will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team.

TELEPHONE (071) 623 9233

### The Language Specialists

Pages 10 of 10 on this page. The client is a leading international design company. The PA will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team.

MERROW EMPLOYMENT AGENCY  
071-499 3939  
73 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9DD

### EXECUTIVE PA £16,000

PA/Sec with strong admin exp required by 2 Senior Directors of City based Company. The client is a leading international design company. The PA will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team.

NORTON ASSOCIATES  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### TEMP WORK for BILINGUAL SECRETARIES IF YOU POSSESS:

A good knowledge of another European language, solid secretarial skills and experience on WANG, CPT, NSI, WORDPERFECT, MS WORD, DWA, MULTIMATE. CONTACT JONATHAN BARKER



BILINGUAL LTD  
Gordon Studios, 11-15 Betterton Street, London, WC2H 9BP  
071-379 0344  
RECRUITMENT SPECIALISTS

### THE PERSONAL TOUCH

This is no time to waste your energy on the wrong staff. We select only first class staff for our clients. We will visit you and determine exactly what you need. It means one less task to worry about. Individual attention makes the difference. Whatever your needs we can provide the cost effective answer.

PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY PERSONNEL  
**Susan Beck**  
RECRUITMENT 071 584 5242

### SAL NEG TO £16,000 cde

Secretary/Assistant with good interpersonal and organisational skills to assist Manager, European Personnel Dept, Worldwide Co W1. To coordinate morning courses, be computer literate and self motivated. Age 25-32. Sub 80/50-WP.

Please email: 071 724 2592  
STOCKTON ASSOCIATES REC CONS.

### FINANCIAL SEC

INTL CO. CHISWICK W4. Work one-to-one with a senior staff member. Solid W/P exp essential + knowledge of spreadsheets. Excellent. Phone Maevie on 081-994 9296.

### SEC/PA

'Entertainment' £14,000 neg. This dynamic entrepreneur runs an Entertainment & Video Co. Particulars on offer on your job. Coupled with a strong, self-motivated and highly organised, the agency is open to all. Call Sue on 071-286 2030. Rec Cons.

### MARKETING

£12,000 + M.T. SUBS. + BENS. The first recruitment team to be based in a prime location in the City. The client is a leading international design company. The PA will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team.

### NAF NAF - LE GRANDE MERCHANT LOOK!

Do you want to work in one of the busiest offices in London. We are the agents for the largest and most exciting collections. We need a fast learning quick thinking secretary to help run the head office. Good skills 80/50 and computer friendly. Age 21-25ish.

ATtractive salary plus benefits. Apply To Belle Cowie in writing to 10 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8LH. Strictly No Agencies.

### HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

SECRETARY TO SENIOR MANAGER £13,000 NEG.

The subject post is immediately vacant in the Victoria/St. James Park area. If you are over 24, enjoy organising events and communicating at a responsible level - this would interest you. Secretarial prerequisites as well as a mature and pleasant personality are necessary. Generous LVs and pension scheme are given. Please send CV to: Miss Dawn Grant, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, 59 Buckingham Gate, St. James House, Ground Floor, London SW1E 6AJ. Tel: 071-628 1861 Fax: 071-628 9976 NO AGENCIES

### Top Belgravia Estate agents requires well organized, efficient and enthusiastic P.A./Secretary aged approx 24-28 yrs.

Must have excellent secretarial and accurate audio/WP typing skills, as well as being self-motivated and have the ability to work on their own. Essential to have a good sense of humour and flexibility. Also has many of her own responsibilities including arranging advertising etc.

Ring Harriet direct on 071 235 8008  
STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

### LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

### PR ADMINISTRATOR

c.£12,000

Organised person required to handle the day to day administration of a busy public relations department and assist with organising events. WP skills a must. No Agencies.

Please send CV to: Liz Fraser or Natalie Park, Gilbert Doyle Public Relations, 29 Sackville Street, London W1X 1DB

### DESIGN CO.

£18,000

The Finance Dir. of this prestigious and highly successful Design Co. is looking for a professional but very stylish PA/Sec. You should be capable, flexible, mature, self-motivated, have excellent communication skills and a keen interest to be involved in the day to day running of the Company. In return, you will be rewarded with a developing role which will grow with your ability. Sh. nachal/60. Age: 25-35. Hanover Square. Tel: 071-498 1461

ANGELA MORTIMER  
Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy

### BANKING

c.£13,000 Exc Bens

Secretary/Assistant to work as part of small team in US investment bank. Varied job assisting in all aspects of investment management. Good education, high personality and WP skills req. Telephone Vicky Lenham on 071 548 5653.

### High Profile PA

Salary Neg - Excellent Benefits

An exciting PA opportunity is available in a new high profile and dynamic environment. The client is a leading international design company. The PA will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team.

Call 071-498 1461  
Zand Hay Associates, Rec Cons.

### SECRETARY/PA TO CHAIRMAN

We need mature, experienced Secretary with excellent skills, initiative and good with people. Location London SW9. Salary negotiable. Tel 071 416 0146 Ext 2072

SECRETARY £12,000 We are a leading international design company. The PA will be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team. The PA will also be responsible for the day to day running of the office, liaising with clients and the design team.

### COLLEGE LEAVERS

Winifred Johnson specialises in the Recruitment of College Leavers looking for careers in Property, Finance and the Media World. 071-235 8353 (Rec. Cons.)

### INTERIOR DESIGN

Jaygar Careers created its Interior Design department six years ago to handle all aspects of recruitment for the business from Secretaries to Senior Designers. 071-235 8353 (Rec. Cons.)

Handwritten note: 071 235 8353



Brian Lapping Associates  
21 Erages Place  
Randolph Street NW1 6TF



071-481 4481

## LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

NEWS INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPERS LIMITED  
DISPLAY ADVERTISING  
(SUN/NEWS OF THE WORLD)

SALARY: £14,000

Young, enthusiastic secretary, aged 28-40, to work as part of a team in the Display Advertising Department of the Sun and News of the World.

Applicants should possess good secretarial skills (100/60), and ability to use word processing (Wordstar 2000).

Varied job content, including typing of memos, some figure typing, filing and keeping advertising charts up to date.

In addition to the above salary, the company offers six weeks annual holiday and BUPA.

Applications in writing, enclosing a CV, to Brenda Hemmings, Recruitment Manager, News International Newspapers Limited, PO Box 481, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.

SECRETARIES & MEDICAL SECRETARIES  
£15,300 Net P.A.

SAUDI ARAMCO, based in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia and with administrative headquarters in Dhahran has vacancies for secretaries and medical secretaries.

Applicants must have a minimum of 5 years experience and be competent at 80 wpm shorthand and 55 wpm typing. Wang and IBM word processing experience will be an advantage.

Secretaries who do not use shorthand regularly and keep up speed should not apply.

Upon completion of an application form suitable candidates will be requested to attend a preliminary interview to carry out shorthand/typing tests.

An indefinite term employment agreement provides job security. SAUDI ARAMCO provides low cost, furnished accommodation in Company family communities, Free medical care and access to some of the finest leisure and recreational facilities in the Middle East.

Write with full CV or telephone for application form to:

RECRUITMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD.  
2nd Floor, Capital Tower House,  
Station Parade, Harrogate,  
N. Yorkshire HG1 1TS.  
Tel: 0423 530533 Fax: 0423 530535

SAUDI ARAMCO

NEWS INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPERS LIMITED  
DAY TELEPHONIST  
SALARY: £11,110

An opportunity has arisen for an experienced switchboard operator to join the busy Head Office team based 10 minutes walk from Tower Hill tube. You will be required to work on a flexible rota between 8am to 8pm which includes weekend working.

Ideally you should have at least 2 years experience in a busy commercial environment.

Your previous experience should reflect stability and reliability coupled with an excellent telephone manner, patience and an ability to work under pressure.

You will be working with the latest computerised switchboard (full training provided) and you should be able to fit in as part of a friendly team.

In addition to the above salary the Company offers six weeks annual holiday and BUPA.

Applications in writing with CV to:

Mrs B Hemmings  
Recruitment Manager  
News International Newspapers Limited  
PO Box 481, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD

LEICESTERSHIRE  
CHAIRMAN'S PA  
£18,000

Polish, poised, energetic and a quick business brain? Chairman of leading international company needs a paragon with exceptionally high standards to whom he can delegate. Director-level experience essential. Languages useful. 90/85 skills. Age 27+.

EUROPEAN PERSONNEL  
£15,500 + OT

Head of personnel for major int'l management consultancy needs a genuine 'people person' PA who can handle highly confidential information. 90/80 skills. Age 26 - 35.

INT'L MARKETING  
TO £14,000 SW7

Quick off the mark, intelligent marketing PA looking for a future in this busy, high flying marketing organisation near Gloucester Road. Accurate typing essential. Age 23 - 40.

PLEASE CALL 071-631 0302

JIGSAW

MULTILINGUAL  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PARIS 15ème. The field is high tech and the job demanding and stimulating with a bias towards administration. You will work for the Anglophone VP European Operations (French) as Bilingual PA/Secretary, and will probably be a sophisticated 30/40 year old with a sound track record and skills. To circa £20,000.

ESSEX. One-year contract in famous international corporation's Personnel Department for an English mother tongue Secretary who enjoys an unstructured and demanding environment, is able to work autonomously and has proven administrative talents. Fluent German and 3+ years' experience. To circa £21,000.

071 836 3794

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

## SECRETARY/PA

We are looking for an enthusiastic Secretary/PA to join our busy printing sales organisation, near London Victoria Station. You will need experience in audio typing, wordstar WP and some figure work, along with good English and a willingness to work on your own initiative. We are a small, informal office of 8 people and you will be responsible to the MD. You will also become involved on the administration side.

The position is available immediately, salary to be discussed. Hours 9am - 4.30pm with 4 weeks annual holiday.

Please contact Angela Slater the address below, enclosing a CV.

The Norman Hardy Printing Group  
Granville House  
112 Bernards Road  
London SE1 3TX  
Tel: 071-378 1579. Fax: 071-378 6421

EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS  
St James's c. £17,000 + bonus

A two partner firm of executive search consultants, conducting senior level assignments, needs to replace its current secretary, departing mid-December. Suitable candidates are likely to be in their 40's, possess a high educational and general cultural level, and good telephone and organisational skills.

Write to:  
Nicholas Angell  
11 Waterloo Place  
London SW1V 4AU.

GRADUATE  
SECRETARY/  
PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Required for Chairman of Robert M. Douglas Holdings PLC, an international group in the construction industry.

First class secretarial and administrative skills essential. Age 25 - 32. Knowledge of French and/or German an advantage.

Apply in writing with CV to:

Mrs. Linda O'Connor,  
Robert M. Douglas Holdings PLC,  
395 George Road, Edinburgh,  
Edinburgh, E23 7R2.

## TEMPTING TIMES

REMOVED Media Co. seeks a dynamic, energetic, and motivated person to join its team as a Secretary/PA. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably in Business or Communications. They will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, filing, and general office duties. Salary is competitive and includes benefits. Applications should be sent to: REMOVED Media Co., 123 Main Street, London, EC1A 1AA. Tel: 071-123 4567.

TECHNICAL SECRETARY/PA. A dynamic, energetic, and motivated person to join its team as a Secretary/PA. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably in Business or Communications. They will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, filing, and general office duties. Salary is competitive and includes benefits. Applications should be sent to: TECHNICAL SECRETARY/PA, 123 Main Street, London, EC1A 1AA. Tel: 071-123 4567.

TECHNICAL SECRETARY/PA. A dynamic, energetic, and motivated person to join its team as a Secretary/PA. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably in Business or Communications. They will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, filing, and general office duties. Salary is competitive and includes benefits. Applications should be sent to: TECHNICAL SECRETARY/PA, 123 Main Street, London, EC1A 1AA. Tel: 071-123 4567.

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## MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Double Dutch  
£19,000 + Mortgage

The London Manager of a prominent Dutch Bank is looking for a mature and diplomatic Dutch-speaking PA to carry out a range of duties. You will be setting up meetings, overseeing secretarial staff, arranging corporate entertainment and, occasionally, representing the company at these functions. Also assisting another senior executive, you will need fluent Dutch and impeccable written and spoken English. Board level secretarial experience essential. Skills: rusty SH/60/WP. Age: 30s. Please telephone Nicola Whelan on 071-588 3535.

Crone Corkill  
MultilingualPA + Italian  
£17,000 + mortgage

Main Board Director of a European bank, who is also MD of its successful subsidiary, needs an Italian-speaking PA able to reinforce the professionalism and high standards for which the company is renowned. This front-line role involves overseas liaison at senior level and requires an appreciation of the demands and deadlines of a client-driven business. Age: 25-40, you need secretarial skills of 90/40/50/WP, Director level experience and good spoken and written Italian. Please telephone Nicola Whelan on 071-588 3535.

Crone Corkill  
MultilingualMarketing  
to £18,000 + bens

Ideal opportunity to use one or more European languages (Spanish/French/German/Italian) in a marketing services company in WC2. Responsibilities are diverse - from secretarial support to arranging exhibitions and international business trips, running a library, managing a database and monitoring the press. With a City/financial background and ideally a degree, you need an eye for detail, good WP/database experience and 50+ typing. Age 25-35.

Crone Corkill  
MultilingualInternational law firm in Paris seeks  
English mother tongue  
secretary

with excellent shorthand in English and working knowledge of French. Apply with CV to Mrs. Audrey Fark, Charly, Gouffier, 75008 Paris.

## SUPER SECRETARIES

ASSISTANT SECRETARY (French to £16,000 p.a.) with minimum of 5 years experience in a secretarial position. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably in Business or Communications. They will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, filing, and general office duties. Salary is competitive and includes benefits. Applications should be sent to: ASSISTANT SECRETARY, 123 Main Street, London, EC1A 1AA. Tel: 071-123 4567.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY (French to £16,000 p.a.) with minimum of 5 years experience in a secretarial position. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably in Business or Communications. They will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, filing, and general office duties. Salary is competitive and includes benefits. Applications should be sent to: ASSISTANT SECRETARY, 123 Main Street, London, EC1A 1AA. Tel: 071-123 4567.

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## OUT OF TOWN

THE ACADEMY OF  
CULINARY ARTS  
PA TO THE DIRECTOR  
£17,000pa, BRIGHTON

The Director for this new national academy needs an experienced Senior PA with good written and spoken French. The academy will serve both as a school for culinary education for chefs as well as a promoter of gastronomy in the UK as a whole. The post is for immediate start and is located in Brighton.

Call Paul Heath, Launch Manager on (0273) 21773.

## RECEPTION SELECTION

RECEPTION  
£14,000 circa

Top Design Co is looking for a top Receptionist. Based in their stunning offices, you should be used to dealing with VIPs, have excellent presentation and telephone manner and have an outgoing personality.

Age: 21-30. Skills: Switchboard/Typing useful. Handwritten Square. Tel: 071-408 1461

ANGELA MORTIMER

RECEPTIONIST  
TOP AD AGENCY IN W1

Our Receptionist is the centre of a busy network, linking the company together. To help run it you must have charm, vitality, be smart, articulate and 25+.

For more details please call Jeanne Mason on 071 636 5600

EXECUTIVE RECEPTIONIST  
£15,000 AGED 28-45

My client, a leading international company, is looking for a highly motivated and professional Executive Receptionist to join their team. The ideal candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant field, preferably in Business or Communications. They will be responsible for a wide range of administrative tasks, including typing, filing, and general office duties. Salary is competitive and includes benefits. Applications should be sent to: EXECUTIVE RECEPTIONIST, 123 Main Street, London, EC1A 1AA. Tel: 071-123 4567.

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## Court of Appeal

## Law Report October 31 1990

## Court of Appeal

## One tax inspector can act for another Problems of seeing judge in his room

**Burford v Durkin (HMIT)**  
Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Farquharson  
[Judgment October 30]

Assessments raised on a contractor under regulation 12 of the Income Tax (Sub-Contractors in the Construction Industry) Regulations (SI 1975 No 1960) were not invalid by reason of their being signed by a tax inspector acting on the instructions of another inspector who had taken the decision that they should be made.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the contractor, Mr Derek Burford, from the decision of Mr Justice Mervyn Davies (The Times October 25, 1989; [1989] STC 845) upholding a special commissioner's determination in respect of assessments for years from 1978 to 1984 for some £286,000.

Section 69 of the Finance (No 2) Act 1975 obliged contractors to make deductions from payments to sub-contractors who were not holders of tax exemption certificates.

Regulation 12 of the 1975 Regulations provides: "(1) Where... the inspector has reason to believe... that the amount which a contractor is liable to pay to the collector under these regulations is greater than the amount, if any, which he has so paid... the inspector may at his discretion make an assessment on the contractor in the amount which,

according to the best of his judgment, the contractor is liable to pay..."

Mr R. K. Mathew for the contractor, Mr Alan Moses, QC, for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that the assessments related to substantial sums paid by the contractor to sub-contractors without the deductions required by section 69 of the 1975 Act.

The essence of the contractor's submissions to the court was that the assessments had not been validly made because the decision to make them under regulation 12(1) had been exercised by one tax inspector, Mr Martin, but the certificates signed and entered in the assessment book by another inspector, Mr McEnhill.

The assessments could only be valid, it was said, if all the necessary acts to be done in making an assessment were done by one and the same tax inspector.

The special commissioner found that Mr Martin, being seized of the contractor's tax affairs, had taken the decision to make the assessments. Mr Martin had then instructed Mr McEnhill to do so.

It was common ground that an assessment was finally made when a certificate recording its entry in the assessment book was signed, here by Mr McEnhill (see *Hong v Sarsfield* ([1986] STC 246)). The judge had dismissed the

contractor's appeal holding that Mr Martin had decided to make an assessment and had calculated the amounts of the assessments then the assessments were made for regulation 12 purposes.

There was difficulty in accepting that view. The assessments were not made for regulation 12 purposes until Mr McEnhill finally signed the certificates. But it did not follow that merely because the assessments were made when the certificates were signed that it was Mr McEnhill who made them. The commissioner found that he had signed the documents as agent of, and at the request of Mr Martin.

Mr Moses, relying on the general principle of law, *qui facit per alium facit per se* (acts done by an authorised agent are deemed to be acts of the principal) argued that where a statute conferred a power on an officer to exercise his discretion he had to exercise it himself but once he had exercised it could delegate more administrative tasks to others. If he did so, he had still properly exercised his statutory power and had not delegated his power to anybody.

Mr Mathew accepted that general proposition of law but submitted it had no application to regulation 12 which gave an inspector power to impose a severe financial burden on a subject.

That power was exceptional and the regulation had to be strictly complied with. It contemplated, it was said, that

the inspector who exercised the discretion would himself actually make the assessment. That argument was advanced with skill and force but it was difficult to see that there had been any contravention of the wording of the regulation.

There would be no potential prejudice to taxpayers if the course adopted in the instant case was followed providing that the person signing the certificates was not exercising any independent judgment of his own. A taxpayer's case would not be harmed if the inspector who made the decision to assess arranged for the certificates to be signed by a different inspector. The function of Mr McEnhill had been to carry out a purely administrative act.

Mr Moses' general proposition of law was correct and applied to the case, it being said that the acts done by Mr McEnhill were administrative and that he had exercised no discretion of his own.

The Crown's alternative arguments involving the incorporation of sections (13) and (13A) of the Taxes Management Act 1970 into regulation 12 were not to be decided and judgment would not be prolonged by expressing any other decisions on those provisions.

Lord Justice Nicholls gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Farquharson agreed. Solicitors: Fairchild Greig, Acton; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

**Regina v Pitman**  
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Auld and Mr Justice Auld  
[Judgment October 22]

The attention of courts up and down the country was drawn to difficulties arising from visits by counsel to a judge in his private room, which resulted in a steady flow of appeals that no amount of criticism, no number of warnings and no amount of exhortation seemed to be able to prevent. It was to be hoped, Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, stated, that at last the point might be home.

His Lordship was delivering the judgment of the Court of Appeal, allowing an appeal and quashing the conviction on a plea of guilty at Bristol Crown Court before Judge Bursell, QC, by Richard Philip John Pitman, aged 30, of Whitchurch, Bristol, to causing death by reckless driving. The appellant had been sentenced to nine months imprisonment and disqualified for four years.

He had also been committed to the crown court in respect of an offence of driving with excess breath-alcohol, for which he had been sentenced to six months concurrent. On appeal, a 14-day prison sentence was substituted and a two-year driving disqualification was imposed.

Mr Ian Dixey, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Glenn Reed for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the appellant had withdrawn a plea of not guilty to the charge of causing death by reckless driving and pleaded guilty on January 17. Sentence was passed on February 9, following an adjournment for psychiatric reports to be obtained.

He was deeply affected by the accident. Hence the adjournment of the case by the judge in order to obtain psychiatric reports. There was no doubt that the appellant had been gravely psychologically affected by the fact that he felt himself at least partly responsible for the terrible accident.

That, however, was not the gravamen of the case. There was, it seemed, a steady flow of appeals to their Lordships' court arising from visits by counsel to the judge in his private room and no amount of criticism, no number of warnings and no amount of exhortation seemed to be able to prevent that happening.

In order to draw to the attention of courts up and down the country the point which their Lordships hoped, might at last go home, his Lordship thought it necessary to cite at length a portion of the judgment of the court given by Lord Justice Mustill in *R v Harper-Taylor*, *R v Baker* (The Times March 3, 1988).

A first principle of criminal law was that justice was done in public, for all to see and hear. By that standard a meeting in the judge's room was anomalous: the essence and, indeed, the

purpose being that neither the defendant nor the jury nor the public were there to hear what was going on. Undoubtedly, there were circumstances where the public had to be excluded. Equally, the jury could not always be kept in court throughout.

The withdrawal of the proceedings into private, without even the defendant being there, was another matter. True, as the court had stated in *R v Turner (Frank)* ([1970] 2 QB 321, 326), there had so be freedom of access between counsel and the judge when there were matters calling for communications or discussions of such a nature that counsel could not, in the interests of his client, mention them in open court.

Criminal trials were so various that a list of situations where an approach to a judge was permissible would only mislead; but it had to be clear that communications should take place unless there was no alternative.

Apart from the question of principle, seeing the judge in private created risks of more than one kind. The need to solve an immediate practical problem might combine with the more relaxed atmosphere of the private room to blur the formal outlines of the trial.

Again, if the object of withdrawing the case from open court was to maintain a confidence, as it plainly had to be, there was room for misunderstanding about how far the confidence was to extend, and, in particular, there was a risk that counsel and solicitors for the other parties might hear something said to the judge which they would rather not hear, putting them into a state of conflict between their duties to their clients and their obligation to maintain the confidentiality of the private room.

The absence of the defendant was also a potential source of trouble. He had to learn what the judge had said at second hand and might afterwards complain (rightly or not) that he was not given an accurate account.

Equally, he could not hear what his counsel had said to the judge and hence could not intervene to correct a misstatement or an excess of authority: a factor which might not only be a source of unfairness to the defendant but which might also deprive the prosecution of the opportunity to contend that admissions made in open court in the presence of the client and not repudiated by him might be taken to have been made with his authority.

The Lord Chief Justice said that the present case was a prime example of the sort of difficulties which arose when those injunctions were disregarded.

Both counsel were told by the court clerk that the judge wished to see them in his room. Neither counsel had requested to see the judge in chambers before the start of the hearing. No shorthand writer was present and no recording device was present inside the room.

Counsel, of course, had no option but to see the judge at his request. The only small criticism that could perhaps be made of counsel was that they could have suggested to the judge that a shorthand writer or some recording device might perhaps be obtained.

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His Lordship summarized the events, as revealed by a note given by counsel, the judge having indicated that the note coincided almost entirely with his recollection.

The sequence of events seemed to their Lordships to be: 1 The judge had expressed his view that there was viable defence to the charge. That, by itself, did not augur well for the appellant were he to persist in his plea of not guilty. It also put counsel in the invidious position of having to decide whether to ask for the case to be transferred to another judge.

Judge Mantell, QC and a jury of one count of incest upon a girl aged 10, on which he was sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

Mr Simon Pentol, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Nicholas Atkinson for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN, giving the judgment of the court, said that by section 33 of the 1988 Act the words "in writing" were deleted from section 104(1)(b) of the 1980 Act, which related to evidence of children in criminal proceedings for sexual offences.

The subsection now read "any statement made by or taken from a child shall be admissible in evidence of any matter of which his oral testimony would be admissible..."

An application to quash the indictment was made on the ground that no statement from the child in written form was before the magistrates and without it there was no admissible evidence to substantiate the allegation of incest.

The trial judge rejected the application, holding that since the condition that the child's statement should be in writing no longer applied, the evidence as tendered was admissible.

Their Lordships agreed, and added that the words "taken from a child" seemed particularly apt to cover what had happened in this case.

Solicitors: CPS, Bristol.

## Lurking policeman not 'passengers'

**Cheeseman v Director of Public Prosecutions**  
Before Lord Justice Bingham and Mr Justice Waterhouse  
[Judgment October 19]

Police officers who witnessed a man masturbating in a public lavatory were not "passengers" within the meaning of section 28 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 when they had been stationed in the lavatory following complaints.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an appeal by way of case stated by Ashley Frederick Cheeseman against his conviction by Leicester City Justices of an offence of wilfully and indecently exposing his person in a street to the annoyance of passers-by.

Section 81 of the Public Health Amendment Act 1907 extended the meaning of the word "street" in section 28 to include, *inter alia*, any place of public resort under the control of the local authority.

Mr Stuart Rafferty for the appellant; Mr David Bartlett for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE BINGHAM, concurring with Mr Justice Waterhouse, said that *The Oxford English Dictionary*

showed that in 1847 when the Act was passed "passenger" had a meaning, now unusual except in the expression "passenger" of "a passer by or through; a traveller (usually on foot); a wayfarer".

Before the meaning of "street" was enlarged in 1907 that dictionary definition of passenger was not hard to apply: it clearly covered anyone using the street for ordinary purposes of passage or travel.

The dictionary definition could not be so aptly applied to a place of public resort such as a public lavatory, but on a commonsense reading when applied in context "passenger" had to mean anyone resorting in the ordinary way to a place of public resort for one of the purposes for which people would normally resort to it.

If that was the correct approach, the two police officers were not "passengers". They were stationed in the public lavatory in order to apprehend persons committing acts which had given rise to earlier complaints. They were not resorting to that place of public resort in the ordinary way but for a special purpose and thus were not passengers.

Solicitors: Bray & Bray, Leicester; CPS, Leicester.

## Enquiring into reason for importing drugs

**Regina v Meah**  
Before Lord Justice McCowan, Mr Justice Jupp and Mr Justice Owen  
[Judgment October 11]

Where defendants pleaded guilty to importing substantial quantities of drugs on the basis that they intended to use the drugs for their own consumption, the Court of Appeal would normally expect an enquiry to be held so that the circumstances of the offence could be investigated: see *R v Newton* ([1983] 77 Cr App R 13).

If the judge declined to hold such an enquiry, to resolve disputed issues of fact following a plea of guilty, he should sentence on the basis of the defendants' account.

The Court of Appeal so stated when allowing appeals by Brian Meah and Philip John Marlow and reducing to three and two years respectively prison sentences of six and four years imposed on April 20, 1980 at Isleworth Crown Court by Judge Kenny on pleas of guilty to being knowingly concerned in a fraudulent evasion of a prohibition on the importation of drugs.

Mr Aftab Jafferjee for Meah;

Mr Jonathan Rees for Marlow, both counsel assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals.

MR JUSTICE JUPP, giving the judgment of the court, said that the judge had declared himself suspicious that he had not been told the truth about the destination of the drugs and it was surprising that a *Newton* enquiry had not been held.

In the absence of such an enquiry, sentence should have been imposed on the basis that the appellants' story was true.

Their Lordships rejected the submission that in those circumstances the appellants should have been sentenced on the same basis as for mere possession of the drugs.

Importation was a different offence from possession and the penalties were different. An importer's intention would make a considerable difference to the sentence, but if a judge thought it right to sentence on the basis that drugs were imported for personal consumption that was still serious.

If the quantity was substantial, sentences of imprisonment might be imposed of the kind of length of the sentences which had been substituted on this appeal.

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Gabbiadini and Davenport are supplying the spice and sparkle at Sunderland

## Mr Nice Guy back in business

By PETER BALL

SUNDERLAND five-a-side pit old 'uns against young. That puts Peter Davenport and Marco Gabbiadini on opposite sides during the week but, when they come together on match days, they are rapidly proving one of the most potent partnerships in the first division.

Already they have claimed ten goals between them this season — no small achievement in a side still finding its feet at the higher level.

This evening, their combination is likely to test Mark Wright's speed of thought and foot more than his heading ability as they provide the main threat to Derby County's hopes of progress in the Rumbelows Cup.

In the case of Gabbiadini, aged 22, the success is not unexpected. He has long been regarded as one of the most exciting prospects in England. Once upon a time, so was Davenport, but he has been less successful recently and there were those who looked askance when Denis Smith, the Sunderland manager, made him his only important summer signing.

Yet the move from Middlesbrough has given one of the nicest people in football a new lease of life. Davenport has struck up a fine understanding with his more street-wise partner, the two complementing one another on and off the field.

It's probably the most satisfying partnership I've ever been involved in because we are both scoring goals and there's now a bit of a buzz whenever we get the ball," Davenport said. "We do look for each other, that seems basic but it's very important."

Davenport has wide experience of different partners, having played alongside Brian McClair, Mark Hughes, Frank Stapleton, Nigel Clough, Bernie Slaven, and even, very briefly, Gary Lineker during his career. In terms of raw potential, he insists, Gabbiadini is the equal of any of them.

"I just give the ball to Marco and he creates chaos," he said. "Going forward with the ball, he is as good as



Two's company: Davenport (left) and Gabbiadini, the Sunderland pair who have formed the perfect partnership

anyone in the country. He has pace, the power to hold defenders off, and he scores goals."

Gabbiadini said: "I'm not the silkiest player in the country. I enjoy getting the ball and running at defenders and causing a bit of trouble. It's amazing that, when you get defenders back-peddling, they don't like it."

Gabbiadini is equally complimentary about his partner. "If you're getting the ball down and holding it — and Peter's better at that than me — then at least you've got the ball under control. You can start looking and playing it in, getting eye-to-eye contact, which is better than trying to chase after flick-ons which can go anywhere."

Getting the ball down, and

will do most damage, has long been the basis of Davenport's game. In 1985, when he came on as a substitute against the Republic of Ireland to win his only England cap, he made the first of Gary Lineker's 37 international goals with virtually his first touch.

"Not many people know that," Davenport said, grinning as Gabbiadini injected surprise to the information. "I said: 'Go on, Gary, go and make yourself a million, son'."

At the time, Davenport was reveling in a partnership with the young Nigel Clough, in a Nottingham Forest team which passed the ball to feet.

It ended when Forest were forced to sell him for financial reasons — a decision which Maurice Roworth, the Forest

chairman, has revealed led to a serious disagreement between him and Brian Clough, who wanted to keep his prolific goalscorer.

Davenport was happy to join Manchester United, the club he had supported as a boy, and he still rejects the theory that the best moment he had at Old Trafford was the day he signed on.

There was little doubt he suffered as he became the first of a long line of forwards to discover the difficulties of playing alongside Mark Hughes. When Hughes left for Barcelona, he never had an established partnership.

"I think I did all right at Old Trafford," Davenport said. "But once Alex Ferguson arrived, I never got a settled run in the side. I think I could

have had a really good partnership with Brian McClair."

Ferguson, who perhaps likes more physical aggression from his forwards than the mild-mannered Davenport offered, did not agree, and he allowed the player to move to Middlesbrough.

On his time at Ayresome Park, there is no dispute — it was a disaster. By the end, he was not even in a team struggling to avoid relegation for a second successive year.

In the circumstances, Smith's decision to sign him was a brave one. It has paid off handsomely. "I like footballers and I always thought he looked a footballer, even when I saw him at Middlesbrough when things weren't going well," Smith said.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

## All seats sold out for next matches

By KEITH MACKLIN

THE expected avalanche of ticket enquiries has descended on Rugby Football League headquarters in Leeds, and all seats for the second and third international matches against the Australians have been sold.

After the Great Britain victory on Saturday, the attendance levels at the two grounds were bound to prove inadequate for the vastly increased demand, and 20,000 seats at Old Trafford and 18,000 at Elland Road were rapidly snapped up.

The respective total capacities are 48,000 and just under 33,000, so enormous has been the rush to buy tickets following Britain's unexpected win, there is only standing room left.

Malcolm Reilly, the Great Britain coach, will wait until next Monday morning before announcing his squad for the second British Coal international.

He has named the 19 who were on training duty for the first game at Wembley, but has not ruled out the possibility of bringing back one or more of Paul Loughlin, Mike Gregory, Andy Platt and Joe Lydon, who retired from their clubs this week-end after injury.

Gregory, the Warrington captain, will in fact play part of the match for his club against the touring side tonight. Mal Meninga, the Australian captain, will try out his leg injury in the match, for which the Australians have selected their normal midweek squad.

A curtain-raiser for the Old Trafford international will be an international goal-kicking competition. Graham Steadman will represent England, Gary Pearce will kick for Wales, Franco Botica for New Zealand, and Australia will nominate their contestant for the £1,000 challenge later.

The Australians are seeking an urgent meeting with Alain Sablayrolles, the French referee, following their defeat by Great Britain.

Keith Barnes, the Australian manager, said: "We want a discussion to clarify some of his decisions, particularly the five-yard offside rule. We were heavily penalised in that department, which put us out of the game."

The penalty count was 17-7 in Britain's favour, although we are not using that as an excuse. Mike Gregory, the Warrington captain, returns to action in the second row for the game against the Australians at Widspecpool tonight.

## TENNIS

## Health worries an unwelcome extra problem for Bates

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE Prudential national championships might lose its top seed in the men's singles, if a virus which has laid Jeremy Bates low for the last six days strikes again in Telford. As a precaution, more than anything, Bates went to have a cardiac graph in a local hospital and, on the doctor's recommendation, had a blood test yesterday.

"I have been feeling very lethargic and getting tired about 4 o'clock every day," he said. "I nearly keeled over when practising at Queen's last week. It's as if I'm out of shape, yet I've been training every day. It could be all in the mind."

Bates has no intention of putting off unless the doctor orders him to do so, but he has a tough second round match against Jeffrey Hunter, which he will hope to finish well before tea-time.

Nick Brown, Bates's main rival for the title, has also had an eventful few weeks. He has moved house, signed a new two-year contract with the Japanese company Mizuno, which means that he will sport the same flying eagle on his shirt as Ivan Lendl, and had his filofax stolen from his car in London last week.

More importantly, he is a little short of match practice before his second round game against a qualifier, Paul Ranson. He also created history yesterday by being one of four players invited to speak their minds to the LTA's tournaments and competitions committee, the first time players have been invited to a meeting.

On court, Anne Hobbs found that a year coaching at the East River Club in New York was not the best preparation for competitive matches. Initially, Hobbs, who retired after this year to take up a post in America, had responded to an invitation from Jo Durie to defend their doubles title, but

succumbed to the temptation to play singles as well. "I thought it would be chicken not to," she said.

The 1985 champion duly won her first singles match in 11 months, beating Helen Crook 7-5, 7-6, but suffered the indignity of a pulled muscle in the backside and had to sit on a pack of ice for much of the rest of the afternoon.

There were other good wins for Shirli-Ann Siddall, who beat the No. 14 seed Helen Rickett, and Jackie Holden, who, like Hobbs, retired to become a coach. She beat Ginny Humphreys-Davies, seeded twelfth, 6-4, 6-4. Maybe the rest of our players should follow suit.

RESULTS: First round: G. Beecher (Rank 10) to D. Curny (Rank 14), 6-4, 6-1; R. Ranson (Rank 15) to P. Ranson (Rank 16), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 1) to J. Hunter (Rank 2), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 3) to P. Rouse (Rank 4), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 5) to N. Brown (Rank 6), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 7) to G. Stewart (Rank 8), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 9) to A. Rouse (Rank 10), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 11) to K. McQuinn (Rank 12), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 13) to K. McQuinn (Rank 14), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 15) to J. Hunter (Rank 16), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 17) to P. Rouse (Rank 18), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 19) to N. Brown (Rank 20), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 21) to G. Stewart (Rank 22), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 23) to A. Rouse (Rank 24), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 25) to K. McQuinn (Rank 26), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 27) to K. McQuinn (Rank 28), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 29) to J. Hunter (Rank 30), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 31) to P. Rouse (Rank 32), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 33) to N. Brown (Rank 34), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 35) to G. Stewart (Rank 36), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 37) to A. Rouse (Rank 38), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 39) to K. McQuinn (Rank 40), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 41) to K. McQuinn (Rank 42), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 43) to J. Hunter (Rank 44), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 45) to P. Rouse (Rank 46), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 47) to N. Brown (Rank 48), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 49) to G. Stewart (Rank 50), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 51) to A. Rouse (Rank 52), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 53) to K. McQuinn (Rank 54), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 55) to K. McQuinn (Rank 56), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 57) to J. Hunter (Rank 58), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 59) to P. Rouse (Rank 60), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 61) to N. Brown (Rank 62), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 63) to G. Stewart (Rank 64), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 65) to A. Rouse (Rank 66), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 67) to K. McQuinn (Rank 68), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 69) to K. McQuinn (Rank 70), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 71) to J. Hunter (Rank 72), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 73) to P. Rouse (Rank 74), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 75) to N. Brown (Rank 76), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 77) to G. Stewart (Rank 78), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 79) to A. Rouse (Rank 80), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 81) to K. McQuinn (Rank 82), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 83) to K. McQuinn (Rank 84), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 85) to J. Hunter (Rank 86), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 87) to P. Rouse (Rank 88), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 89) to N. Brown (Rank 90), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 91) to G. Stewart (Rank 92), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 93) to A. Rouse (Rank 94), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 95) to K. McQuinn (Rank 96), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 97) to K. McQuinn (Rank 98), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 99) to J. Hunter (Rank 100), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 101) to P. Rouse (Rank 102), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 103) to N. Brown (Rank 104), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 105) to G. Stewart (Rank 106), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 107) to A. Rouse (Rank 108), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 109) to K. McQuinn (Rank 110), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 111) to K. McQuinn (Rank 112), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 113) to J. Hunter (Rank 114), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 115) to P. Rouse (Rank 116), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 117) to N. Brown (Rank 118), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 119) to G. Stewart (Rank 120), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 121) to A. Rouse (Rank 122), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 123) to K. McQuinn (Rank 124), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 125) to K. McQuinn (Rank 126), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 127) to J. Hunter (Rank 128), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 129) to P. Rouse (Rank 130), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 131) to N. Brown (Rank 132), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 133) to G. Stewart (Rank 134), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 135) to A. Rouse (Rank 136), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 137) to K. McQuinn (Rank 138), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 139) to K. McQuinn (Rank 140), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 141) to J. Hunter (Rank 142), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 143) to P. Rouse (Rank 144), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 145) to N. Brown (Rank 146), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 147) to G. Stewart (Rank 148), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 149) to A. Rouse (Rank 150), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 151) to K. McQuinn (Rank 152), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 153) to K. McQuinn (Rank 154), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 155) to J. Hunter (Rank 156), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 157) to P. Rouse (Rank 158), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 159) to N. Brown (Rank 160), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 161) to G. Stewart (Rank 162), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 163) to A. Rouse (Rank 164), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 165) to K. McQuinn (Rank 166), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 167) to K. McQuinn (Rank 168), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 169) to J. Hunter (Rank 170), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 171) to P. Rouse (Rank 172), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 173) to N. Brown (Rank 174), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 175) to G. Stewart (Rank 176), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 177) to A. Rouse (Rank 178), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 179) to K. McQuinn (Rank 180), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 181) to K. McQuinn (Rank 182), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 183) to J. Hunter (Rank 184), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 185) to P. Rouse (Rank 186), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 187) to N. Brown (Rank 188), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 189) to G. Stewart (Rank 190), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 191) to A. Rouse (Rank 192), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 193) to K. McQuinn (Rank 194), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 195) to K. McQuinn (Rank 196), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 197) to J. Hunter (Rank 198), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 199) to P. Rouse (Rank 200), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 201) to N. Brown (Rank 202), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 203) to G. Stewart (Rank 204), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 205) to A. Rouse (Rank 206), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 207) to K. McQuinn (Rank 208), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 209) to K. McQuinn (Rank 210), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 211) to J. Hunter (Rank 212), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 213) to P. Rouse (Rank 214), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 215) to N. Brown (Rank 216), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 217) to G. Stewart (Rank 218), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 219) to A. Rouse (Rank 220), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 221) to K. McQuinn (Rank 222), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 223) to K. McQuinn (Rank 224), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 225) to J. Hunter (Rank 226), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 227) to P. Rouse (Rank 228), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 229) to N. Brown (Rank 230), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 231) to G. Stewart (Rank 232), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 233) to A. Rouse (Rank 234), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 235) to K. McQuinn (Rank 236), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 237) to K. McQuinn (Rank 238), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 239) to J. Hunter (Rank 240), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 241) to P. Rouse (Rank 242), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 243) to N. Brown (Rank 244), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 245) to G. Stewart (Rank 246), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 247) to A. Rouse (Rank 248), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 249) to K. McQuinn (Rank 250), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 251) to K. McQuinn (Rank 252), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 253) to J. Hunter (Rank 254), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 255) to P. Rouse (Rank 256), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 257) to N. Brown (Rank 258), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 259) to G. Stewart (Rank 260), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 261) to A. Rouse (Rank 262), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 263) to K. McQuinn (Rank 264), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 265) to K. McQuinn (Rank 266), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 267) to J. Hunter (Rank 268), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 269) to P. Rouse (Rank 270), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 271) to N. Brown (Rank 272), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 273) to G. Stewart (Rank 274), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 275) to A. Rouse (Rank 276), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 277) to K. McQuinn (Rank 278), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 279) to K. McQuinn (Rank 280), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 281) to J. Hunter (Rank 282), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 283) to P. Rouse (Rank 284), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 285) to N. Brown (Rank 286), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 287) to G. Stewart (Rank 288), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 289) to A. Rouse (Rank 290), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 291) to K. McQuinn (Rank 292), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 293) to K. McQuinn (Rank 294), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 295) to J. Hunter (Rank 296), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 297) to P. Rouse (Rank 298), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 299) to N. Brown (Rank 300), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 301) to G. Stewart (Rank 302), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 303) to A. Rouse (Rank 304), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 305) to K. McQuinn (Rank 306), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 307) to K. McQuinn (Rank 308), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 309) to J. Hunter (Rank 310), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 311) to P. Rouse (Rank 312), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 313) to N. Brown (Rank 314), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 315) to G. Stewart (Rank 316), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 317) to A. Rouse (Rank 318), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 319) to K. McQuinn (Rank 320), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 321) to K. McQuinn (Rank 322), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 323) to J. Hunter (Rank 324), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 325) to P. Rouse (Rank 326), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 327) to N. Brown (Rank 328), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 329) to G. Stewart (Rank 330), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 331) to A. Rouse (Rank 332), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 333) to K. McQuinn (Rank 334), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 335) to K. McQuinn (Rank 336), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 337) to J. Hunter (Rank 338), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 339) to P. Rouse (Rank 340), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 341) to N. Brown (Rank 342), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 343) to G. Stewart (Rank 344), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 345) to A. Rouse (Rank 346), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 347) to K. McQuinn (Rank 348), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 349) to K. McQuinn (Rank 350), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 351) to J. Hunter (Rank 352), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 353) to P. Rouse (Rank 354), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 355) to N. Brown (Rank 356), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 357) to G. Stewart (Rank 358), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 359) to A. Rouse (Rank 360), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 361) to K. McQuinn (Rank 362), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 363) to K. McQuinn (Rank 364), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 365) to J. Hunter (Rank 366), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 367) to P. Rouse (Rank 368), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 369) to N. Brown (Rank 370), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 371) to G. Stewart (Rank 372), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 373) to A. Rouse (Rank 374), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 375) to K. McQuinn (Rank 376), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 377) to K. McQuinn (Rank 378), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 379) to J. Hunter (Rank 380), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 381) to P. Rouse (Rank 382), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 383) to N. Brown (Rank 384), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 385) to G. Stewart (Rank 386), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 387) to A. Rouse (Rank 388), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 389) to K. McQuinn (Rank 390), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 391) to K. McQuinn (Rank 392), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 393) to J. Hunter (Rank 394), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 395) to P. Rouse (Rank 396), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 397) to N. Brown (Rank 398), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 399) to G. Stewart (Rank 400), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 401) to A. Rouse (Rank 402), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 403) to K. McQuinn (Rank 404), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 405) to K. McQuinn (Rank 406), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 407) to J. Hunter (Rank 408), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 409) to P. Rouse (Rank 410), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 411) to N. Brown (Rank 412), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 413) to G. Stewart (Rank 414), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 415) to A. Rouse (Rank 416), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 417) to K. McQuinn (Rank 418), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 419) to K. McQuinn (Rank 420), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 421) to J. Hunter (Rank 422), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 423) to P. Rouse (Rank 424), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 425) to N. Brown (Rank 426), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 427) to G. Stewart (Rank 428), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 429) to A. Rouse (Rank 430), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 431) to K. McQuinn (Rank 432), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 433) to K. McQuinn (Rank 434), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 435) to J. Hunter (Rank 436), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 437) to P. Rouse (Rank 438), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 439) to N. Brown (Rank 440), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 441) to G. Stewart (Rank 442), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 443) to A. Rouse (Rank 444), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 445) to K. McQuinn (Rank 446), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 447) to K. McQuinn (Rank 448), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 449) to J. Hunter (Rank 450), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 451) to P. Rouse (Rank 452), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 453) to N. Brown (Rank 454), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 455) to G. Stewart (Rank 456), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 457) to A. Rouse (Rank 458), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 459) to K. McQuinn (Rank 460), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 461) to K. McQuinn (Rank 462), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 463) to J. Hunter (Rank 464), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 465) to P. Rouse (Rank 466), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 467) to N. Brown (Rank 468), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 469) to G. Stewart (Rank 470), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 471) to A. Rouse (Rank 472), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 473) to K. McQuinn (Rank 474), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 475) to K. McQuinn (Rank 476), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 477) to J. Hunter (Rank 478), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 479) to P. Rouse (Rank 480), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 481) to N. Brown (Rank 482), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 483) to G. Stewart (Rank 484), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 485) to A. Rouse (Rank 486), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 487) to K. McQuinn (Rank 488), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 489) to K. McQuinn (Rank 490), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 491) to J. Hunter (Rank 492), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 493) to P. Rouse (Rank 494), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 495) to N. Brown (Rank 496), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 497) to G. Stewart (Rank 498), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 499) to A. Rouse (Rank 500), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 501) to K. McQuinn (Rank 502), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank 503) to K. McQuinn (Rank 504), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Rank 505) to J. Hunter (Rank 506), 6-3, 6-2; A. Rouse (Rank 507) to P. Rouse (Rank 508), 6-3, 6-2; D. Harte (Rank 509) to N. Brown (Rank 510), 6-3, 6-2; J. Landon (Rank 511) to G. Stewart (Rank 512), 6-3, 6-2; J. Brown (Rank 513) to A. Rouse (Rank 514), 6-3, 6-2; C. Hunt (Rank



# SPORT

## Bicknell makes Australian batsmen struggle

The Chinese will be disappointed on one score. Steve Davis failed to qualify for the final stages. Davis who, with Dennis Taylor, played the first professional exhibition in Guanzhou in 1985, is still regarded as No. 1.

# Great Chinese proletarian snooker revolution

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